

**Celebrating culture**

Post observance recognizes Hispanic heritage

Page 17

# Fort Riley Post

**Time change**

Don't forget to set clocks back one hour at bedtime Saturday. Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday.



Friday, October 28, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 48, No. 43

## Around The Army

**Korea:**

The Pacific Stars and Stripes reported Oct. 27 that three 2nd Infantry Division Soldiers were issued written reprimands in connection with a June 10 accident in which a South Korean woman was killed when struck by a U.S. Army truck.

The officials also said additional safety measures were implemented after a sweeping safety assessment.

Selected routes in high-density areas now are off-limits to military vehicles, greater emphasis is placed on driver training and some vehicle dispatch regulations – such as route selection – were revised. Vehicles similar to the 2.5-ton truck involved in the accident now have fish-eye mirrors mounted so drivers can see in the “blind spot” directly in front of the vehicle.

For more on this story and other U.S. military news in the Pacific and European theaters, visit [www.estripes.com](http://www.estripes.com) on the Web.

**Fort Rucker:**

The Army Flier reported Oct. 20 that the schedule had been finalized, the country music stars were on their way, and Fort Rucker was gearing up for some 40,000 visitors for the post's 50th anniversary celebration.

The event was described as one of the largest open houses ever conducted on a military post.

The installation planned to host aircraft displays, band performances, military demonstrations, panel discussions with former Fort Rucker leaders, entertainment from top country artists and local entertainers, and a fireworks show that post officials compared to “a Fourth of July on steroids.”

For more on this story and other Fort Rucker, Ala., news, visit [www.armyflyer.com/](http://www.armyflyer.com/) on the Web.

**Fort Belvoir:**

The Belvoir Eagle reported Oct. 20 that Fort Belvoir held its first community-wide fire drills the evening of Oct. 12 in Fairfax, Belvoir, Gerber, River and Woodlawn villages.

During the first drill in Fairfax Village, Fort Belvoir Fire and Rescue teams pulled into Forney Loop and blared the truck's siren.

The purpose of the exercise was “for each residence on post to use their evacuation plan,” said Fire Marshall Ronald Martin.



**Fox Chrisman, 6, tries on his new fireman's hat during a community-wide fire drill Oct. 12.**

For more on this story and other Fort Belvoir, Va., news, visit [www.belvoireagle.com/](http://www.belvoireagle.com/) on the Web.

## Historic MP battalion reactivates

**Staff report**

An historic military police battalion was activated and a detachment and detachment were inactivated Oct. 18 at Ware Parade Field.

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 97th Military Police Battalion, uncased its colors and attached its 25-plus campaign streamers during the ceremony.

That same day, Soldiers eased the 924th Military Police Battalion (Provisional) and the 523rd MP Detachment colors.

In essence, the 924th MP Bn. became the 97th MP Bn. with Soldiers in the 924th MP Bn. staying with the new battalion.

HHD, 97th MP Bn., is one of five active duty military police battalions activated as part of a larger force structure change the

Army is making in order to support commitments across the full spectrum of military operations.

“This is a vital step in the right direction for the MPs and Fort Riley,” said Lt. Col. Michael Apodaca, 97th MP Bn. commander and former commander of the 924th MP Bn. “It is truly an honor to be part of a proven battle brigade.”

See MPs, Page 2



**Col. Thomas Smith (left), U.S. Army Garrison commander, and Lt. Col. Michael Apodaca, 97th MP Bn. commander, attach campaign streamers to the battalion's colors after it reactivated Oct. 18.**

Post/Blackmon

## War ‘games’



Post/Blackmon

**Staff Sgt. Mark Grundhauser (front), Pfc. Thomas Ragsdale (left), 1st Sgt. Robert Boice (right) and Spe. Steven Ratcliffe (back), all of Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, sit in a simulated ‘Humvee’ during a virtual convoy exercise.**

## Trailers offer war training

**By April Blackmon****Staff writer**

Convoy attacks cause a high number of U.S. casualties in Iraq, according to Pentagon officials. In an effort to combat casualties before Soldiers deploy to the battlefield, Fort Riley has been using the Virtual Combat Convoy Trainer, or VCCT.

“For convoy training, this is the cream of the crop,” said Capt. Kevin Hamilton of G3 training.

Developed by Raydon, the VCCT is a virtual trainer based

on a software program used to teach high school students to drive and that fits into a semi-trailer. Two trailers arrived at Fort Riley in September and will be used to train Soldiers through early November. Several units – active duty, Guard and Reserve – have been training on the simulator.

The VCCT is, in essence, a high-speed, high-tech, life-sized video game with about 50 scenarios to practice on. About 30 computers run simultaneously within the trailers.

Soldiers step into a crew station designed to simulate a “Humvee.” The driver sits

behind the wheel and watches three computers. The rest of the crewmembers put on simulator eyeglasses, take charge of their weapons and find themselves in transported electronically to Iraq.

The simulator is geo-specific to Baghdad. Some Soldiers said they could even recognize the terrain and areas of towns where they had been deployed. Unique to the VCCT is its capability to give a 360-degree spherical orientation and field of vision. When Soldiers look down at the ground, they see

See Training, Page 3



Post/Blackmon

**Staff Sgt. Mark Grundhauser of Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, communicates with other troops in the company's convoy.**

## More Soldiers eligible to enroll

## Army extends ‘no-laptop’ ed to all officers

**Army News Service**

WASHINGTON – Changes in re-enlistment criteria effective Oct. 1 broaden eligibility for Soldiers to participate in the eArmyU laptop enrollment option, officials said, and extend the program's no-laptop option to all officers.

Under the new requirements, the majority of active-component Soldiers in the rank of private first class and higher may be eligible to sign up for online college courses and receive a laptop computer to use in the program, officials said.

Laptop enrollees will be required to successfully complete at least 12 semester hours of coursework in three years.

“Soldiers have greater access and flexibility with the eArmyU program than they do with the traditional programs, where they’ve got to go and sit in the classroom every Monday and Wednesday evening, or at lunchtime, or over the weekend, at a very structured kind of pace,” said Dian Stoskopf, director of the Army Continuing Education System.

The number of Soldiers approved for the laptop enrollment will be constrained based on program funding, officials said.

The eArmyU “no laptop” enrollment, called “eCourse enrollment,” will also be extended to all officers beginning this month, officials said.

“We realize that officers are very busy with their military careers and often don’t have the time to attend traditional classes on a routine basis,” Stoskopf said.

See eArmyU, Page 2

## Private finds enlistment choice satisfying

*Editor's note: This is one in an occasional series of feature articles telling the story of America's ordinary Soldier fulfilling his or her ordinary duties in service to the nation.*

**By Anna Perry****19th PAD**

Pvt. Charlie Owens always knew he wanted to be in the military. Inspired by his father, who recently retired from the Air Force after 20 years of service, Owens enlisted in the Army in 2004 as a heavy construction equipment

mechanic. Although he didn't know he wanted to work with heavy equipment, the Lacey, Wash., native, finds his job with the 1st Maintenance Battalion, 541st Maintenance Battalion, extremely satisfying.

“I enjoy learning new things, and being a part of this unit has been a great opportunity for me,” Owens said.

This day would be no exception. Owens' squad would be participating in a concept totally new to most of them.

**0900 hours, 7 Oct 2005:**

Owens removes his soft cap as



**A day in the life of ...**

he steps under the half-closed garage door into Bay Three of the shadowy motor pool shop. He smiles and exchanges greetings with the small group of Soldiers already present. The air is chilly,

even inside, and a few of the Soldiers sip cups of coffee. The Soldiers banter back and forth as they wait for the noncommissioned officer responsible for the day's Sergeant's Time Training to set up the necessary equipment.

Owens eagerly awaits the day's training – welding. He hasn't done much welding since joining the Army.

**0930 hours, 7 Oct 2005:**

Sgt. Tamee Green, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Service and Recovery squad, a group of machinists and metal workers, announces she is ready

for the Soldiers to move into the machine shop area to begin the instruction.

Green explains that she will be going over tools, basic welding and cutting techniques and safety precautions used while operating the machinery.

“This cross-training is essential for us (heavy construction equipment mechanics) because if S and R aren't available, we have to be able to step up and use these tools,” Owens said.

Green begins by going over safety precautions, like wearing

See Soldier's life, Page 4





## Post news in brief

### Post staffer wins award

Fort Riley Post staff writer April Blackmon won third place in the single or stand-alone photograph category of the 2004 Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Journalism competition.

A panel of 22 professionals from the commercial media, academia and Department of



April  
Blackmon

Defense public affairs community reviewed more than 400 entries in print and broadcast categories. The competition recognizes military and civilian employee print and broadcast practitioners for journalistic excellence in furthering the objectives of the Department of the Army internal-information program.

### Army offers \$1,000 rewards

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is offering a \$1,000 reward to anyone providing information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the theft of a JLJ Model 2032E2 Personnel Lifter, serial number 0200076614.

The lifter was stolen between 4:30 p.m. Oct. 7, 2005, and 8 a.m. Oct. 10, 2005, from Estes Road on Fort Riley.

A \$1,000 reward is also offered for information about the theft of a black, 2005 Honda TRX 450-R all-terrain vehicle, Vehicle Identification Number HFT30045A110847.

The ATV was stolen between 7:45 a.m. Sept. 16 and 7 p.m. Sept. 17 from the parking lot adjacent to Building 7002B and Infantry Drive on Fort Riley.

Anyone with information concerning the lifter is urged to call Special Agent Emey E. Brantley (lifter) or Special Agent Jeffrey Lasley (ATV) at the Fort Riley CID office, 239-8641, or the military police at 239-6767.

## MPs

continued from page 1

"The activation of these additional MP units will allow more flexibility and a higher degree of readiness to support missions across the full spectrum of operations," said Maj. Louis Poore, battalion executive officer.

The detachment originally was constituted in June 1945 in France and inactivated five months later. It was reactivated October 1951 in Korea, where it served until 1953.

The battalion was activated again in June 1966 and served in Vietnam for six years. It was activated once again in September 1989 in Mannheim, Germany, and inactivated in 1994.

The battalion will provide command and control of the 300th Military Police Company, 977th

Military Police Company, 116th Military Police Company and Company A, 1st Battalion, 190th Field Artillery (MP Provisional) from Montana.

The battalion also provides support to the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and the Fort Riley community.

HHH is authorized 13 officers, two warrant officers and 69 Soldiers. Capt. Craig Hager commands the detachment and the detachment first sergeant is Sgt. 1st Class Zachary Jenkins.

"The HHD provides a unique structure in order to command and control three Fort Riley subordinate military police units with an aggregate authorized strength of 612 personnel," Poore said.

## eArmyU

continued from page 1

"eArmyU is portable. Officers can take this program anywhere they have Internet access."

With eCourse enrollment, Soldiers use their personal computers to participate in the program on a course-by-course basis and receive all the same benefits as laptop enrollees as part of tuition.

eArmyU tuition includes textbooks, Internet Service Provider, 24/7 technology support, a "boot camp" tutorial and online academic tutoring and mentoring.

Officers and commissioned warrant officers incur a two-year active duty service obligation beginning upon the ending date of the last class for which tuition assistance was received.

The Army launched eArmyU in 2001 to offer eligible Soldiers the opportunity to work toward a college degree or certificate online. The program began with selected installations and was expanded Army-wide this year. To date, more than 60,000 Soldiers have taken courses from 29 regionally accredited colleges and universities.

Stoskopf contends that the program benefits individual Soldiers and the Army as a whole.

"The program assists in building today's and tomorrow's future force by offering unprecedented academic access, choice and flexibility in an online learning environment," she said. "eArmyU successfully reaches a new generation of Soldier-students and helps them achieve their academic goals."

eArmyU develops educated technology savvy Soldiers who can succeed in the network-centric missions and battle spaces of the 21st century. It integrates educational opportunity with troop readiness, strengthening the Army's commitment to an agile, versatile and adaptive force. And it serves as a retention tool by

empowering a new population of Soldiers to reach their educational goals."

All active-component Soldiers who want to participate are required to have approval from an Army Continuing Education System counselor as well as their commander. They must follow the documentation and timeline procedures for processing of the eArmyU Participation Agreement, which must be returned within 30 days of issuance.

No Service Remaining Requirement exists with the eCourse option. However, Soldiers must have sufficient time in service remaining to complete the eArmyU course in which they are enrolling.

The laptop option is available to Soldiers in the rank of specialist to staff sergeant, with less than 10 years of service and staff sergeants to sergeants major with more than 10 years of active service in an indefinite status, with more than three years to their retention control point, officials said.

Active duty privates first class with less than 24 months time in service (those Soldiers who entered on a 15-month-plus training enlistment option) may also be eligible.

Soldiers may re-enlist or extend to meet the three-year remaining service requirement, officials said. They said enlisted careerists not in an indefinite status must re-enlist and become indefinite.

More extensive eligibility information is located on the eArmyU Web Page at [www.eArmyU.com](http://www.eArmyU.com) under "View Eligibility Checklist" and in the Frequently Asked Questions.

Information provided by Human Resources Command Public Affairs.



Post/Heronemus

Col. Thomas Smith, U.S. Army Garrison commander at Fort Riley, pins the Army Commendation Medal with "V" device to the uniform of Sgt. Vincent Hall of 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, Oct. 21. Hall also received the Purple Heart.

## Soldiers receive medals, badges

By Mike Heronemus

Editor

"I don't think Tom Brokaw was right" when he wrote that America's greatest generation fought in World War II, Col. Thomas Smith told the audience of Soldiers and family members Oct. 21.

"I'm standing in front of the greatest generation," he said.

The U.S. Army Garrison commander took part in a ceremony at Riley's Conference Center in which 39 Soldiers received medals and badges ranging from the Army Commendation Medal with "V" device to the Combat Action Badge.

Smith pinned the Purple Heart on 16 3rd Brigade Combat Team Soldiers who had been wounded or injured while serving in Iraq and were back at Fort Riley, healing.

Sgt. Anthony Hall of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, marched to the front of the room first to receive the ARCOM for valor, the Purple Heart and the

Combat Action Badge.

He earned his awards while on a dismounted patrol. His patrol was hit by an improvised explosive device and, although he was stunned, Hall and his patrol captured the man who set off the blast.

Hall lost one eye in the attack. He is waiting to be fitted with a prosthetic eye and wants to qualify with his weapon so he can remain in the Army.

Sgt. Timothy Nelson also received the Purple Heart as well as the Combat Infantryman Badge. He is assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, and was injured while crossing a bridge.

Two 155mm rounds set up as an IED exploded and set Nelson's Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle on fire, "cooking" all the ammunition stored inside it.

Nelson suffered four breaks in his back, ruptured spleen and burns, but he wants to reclassify out of his infantry specialty so he can remain in the Army.

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## Training continued from page 1

their simulated feet, not their real feet. When they look behind them, they see what's programmed to be there.

"It's the only simulator that can simulate 360 degrees up and down," Hamilton said. "It truly immerses you in the simulated world."

One trailer houses a team of five Soldiers in one simulated "Humvee." The other trailer contains three "Humvee" stations. Each team is connected through radio communication, allowing a four-team convoy to train together.

The convoy rides through the streets of Baghdad, meeting non-combatants and enemy combatants on foot and in vehicles, snipers, improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire.

Crews battle potential threats encountered during convoy missions. They also have the opportunity to work on vehicle positioning in the convoy and train on medically evacuating casualties.

More so, the VCCT provides the opportunity to practice maneuvering in an urban environ-

ment — something Soldiers don't really have the opportunity to do in Kansas.

"Let's face it, the Kansas training areas are not urban training areas," Hamilton said. "This (simulator) provides two-scale urban areas with enemies, friendlies, IEDs that you can practice (dealing with) before you go."

"Going through this isn't the

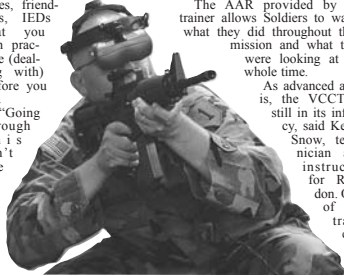
end-all, but it is a way for leaders to take a team, sit down in a comfortable environment, an easily adaptable environment, and train on the things he wants to, get a good AAR (after action review) and develop things to improve on," Hamilton said.

The AAR provided by the trainer allows Soldiers to watch what they did throughout their mission and what they were looking at the whole time.

As advanced as it is, the VCCT is still in its infancy, said Kevin Snow, technician and instructor for Raydon.

But for now, the VCCT provides unique training that Soldiers like Sgt. Joseph Loesch and his fellow troops in Company B, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, can benefit from in Iraq.

"It's a good trainer for platoons," Loesch said. "It's good for reactive contact drills and gunner techniques. We've got some new gunners, so it's good for them. It's different but decent for platoon drills, for scanning sectors ... Just like any computer, it has its limits. But overall, it's pretty impressive," Loesch said.



Post/Blackmon

Pfc. Thomas Ragsdale of Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, hops outside his "Humvee" to scan for insurgents during convoy exercises in the VCCT.



Post/Blackmon

(Top) Spec. Jeffrey McMillan of Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, follows another "Humvee" in a convoy and then (below) pulls his "Humvee" behind a disabled "Humvee" in his convoy. Soldiers of Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, ran through convoy exercises in the VCCT Oct. 20.

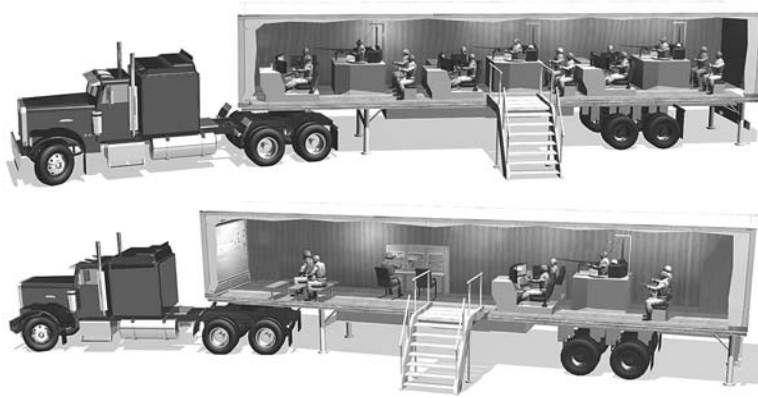


Post/Blackmon



Post/Blackmon

Capt. Damon Durall, commander of Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, listens to the radio while Kevin Snow, technician and instructor for Raydon, watches Soldiers' actions as they participate in convoy training in the VCCT.



Raydon images

These artist renderings show the set-up of the Virtual Convoy Combat Trainer trailers being used at Fort Riley.

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2x5.5 Little Caesars





## Post news in brief

### Special Forces briefing slated

Soldiers interested in joining the Army's Special Forces will be provided pertinent information during briefings at noon and 5 p.m. Nov. 7 and 8 at the Post Retention Office, Building 7852 on Custer Hill.

Eligible enlisted Soldiers include those in grades E-4 through E-6 with a General Technical aptitude score of 100 or higher.

The Soldier must have a security clearance or be eligible for one and must have scored a 229 on the Army Physical Fitness Test at the 17-21 age standard.

Eligible officers include those first lieutenants and captains in year group 04.

The officer must take a Defense Language Aptitude Battery test and score 85 or higher and must meet the same AFPT standards as enlisted Soldiers.

Special Forces beginning class dates for fiscal year 2006 are Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 21 and April 25.

For more information, call (719) 524-1461 or (877) 840-8502 or send e-mail to kristopher.ball@usarec.army.mil.

### E-7 promotion board set

The fiscal year 2006 sergeant first class promotion board will convene Jan. 31.

Eligibility criteria for promotion consideration to sergeant first class are those Basic Non-commissioned Officer Course qualified staff sergeants who have a date of rank of Feb. 1, 2004, or earlier and basic active duty service date between Feb. 1, 1985, and Jan. 31, 2000, both dates inclusive.

Staff sergeants with a date of rank of Feb. 1, 2003, or earlier will be considered in the prima-

ry zone. Those with a date of rank of Feb. 2, 2003, through Feb. 1, 2004, will be considered in the secondary zone.

Staff sergeants have until Jan. 13, 2006, to validate their Web enlisted records brief, submit a digital photograph, submit documents to their official military personnel file and provide NCO enlisted records to the Enlisted Records Evaluation Center.

BNCOC graduation is a requirement for consideration by this board. However, all staff sergeants who meet other criteria should update their records.

If Headquarters, Department of the Army, determines that the reason an NCO does not have BNCOC is due to the Army's inability to schedule the training, or as a direct result of operational deployment conflicts, HQDA may waive BNCOC graduation as an eligibility requirement for promotion consideration.

Eligible staff sergeants may schedule an appointment to update their ERBs by calling 239-2973 or 239-2934.

### Army offers \$500 reward

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is offering a \$500 reward to anyone providing information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the theft of a 2005 Mercury Mariner outboard motor, serial number 0R059727.

The motor was stolen between 4:15 p.m. and 6 p.m. Oct. 13, 2005, from the parking lot adjacent to Building 7424 on Fort Riley.

Anyone with information concerning this incident is urged to call Special Agent Charles Baker at the Fort Riley CID office, 239-3304, or the military police at 239-6767.

## Soldier's life

continued from page 1

protective eyewear, welding jackets and never walking away from a running machine.

The first tool Green introduces the Soldiers to is the oxyacetylene torch that can be used for welding and cutting metal. Owens listens intently as Green describes how to properly use the torch, occasionally nodding to indicate his understanding.

After a brief demonstration, Green passes the torch to a nearby Soldier. Hissing sparks fill the air

as the Soldiers each take a turn handling the torch. They offer each other encouragement and constructive criticism as they gain familiarity with the tool.

#### 1000 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

It is Owens' turn to operate the oxyacetylene torch. He dons his eyewear and picks up the torch with confidence. For five minutes, Owens' attention is devoted solely to the torch. He concentrates intensely, keeping the torch

steady as he cuts through the metal. Finally, Owens turns off the torch, sets it down and leans over to inspect his work.

"I did fairly well considering this is the first time I've worked with the torch," Owens said, as he studies the piece of metal in his hand. "It was sort of frightening at first, actually, but it was fine after I got a feel for it."

#### 1030 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

Owens and Pfc. John Scuka, a machinist in the S and R squad, step outside for a short break. As the Soldiers talk, Owens receives a surprise phone call. He is notified that he and another Soldier from 1st Maint. Co. will be receiving a certificate for their hard work at the recent post open house and Apple Day celebration. The Soldiers had dutifully kept the areas clean by collecting trash. They had also provided directions for people attending the annual event.

Owens expressed his happiness over being acknowledged.

"It feels good to receive recognition for a job well done, even for something as simple as picking up garbage," Owens said.

#### 1045 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

Back inside the shop, the Soldiers move on to a different tool — the plasma torch. This torch provides a cleaner, more precise cut than the oxyacetylene torch. Again, after a demonstration by Green, the Soldiers each take a turn using the torch.

#### 1100 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

Sparks spit and fly as Owens cuts through a piece of metal. Once again, he is lost in the task at hand. After a few minutes, the tool hisses to a stop. Owens examines his work.

"The plasma torch is definitely easier to use than the oxyacetylene torch," Owens said. "It's a pretty neat tool."

#### 1130 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

Owens and the rest of the Soldiers break for lunch.

#### 1300 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

The Soldiers regroup after eating. For the rest of the afternoon,

Green allows the Soldiers to work freely in order to enhance their newly acquired skills. The air is filled with the buzzing and whirring of the machine tools as the Soldiers gain familiarity with the tools.

#### 1630 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

After a productive day, the shop is coming to a close for the weekend. The machines are turned off, safety equipment is put away and the area is picked up. Owens brushes his hands off and grins.

"I really need to get myself one of those plasma torches," he said.

#### 1645 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

The Soldiers get into their vehicles and drive to Pacesetter Field on Custer Hill for the end-of-the-day formation.

#### 1700 hours, 7 Oct 2005:

Capt. Thomas Patterson, 1st Maint. Co. commander, provides a safety briefing and then releases the Soldiers for the four-day weekend.

As he walks to his vehicle, Owens talks excitedly about the training he has just received.

"Learning how to use that equipment was definitely beneficial," he said. "I've wanted to operate the machinery for quite some time, actually. I can't wait to gain more experience and perhaps buy my own torch at some point."



19th PAD Perry

Pvt. Charlie Owens of 1st Maint. Co. learns to cut metal using an oxyacetylene torch.

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## Page 5





## Armenian defense officials visit

Right: Members of the Armenian delegation, including Serzh Sargsyan (center back) arrive Oct. 24 at Fort Riley's Custer Hill Parade Field in Black Hawks.

Below: Sgt. 1st Class James Clem, S4 for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, talks on the radio while Lt. Col. Russell Grimley (left) defense and Army attache and Col. Armen Sargsyan, Armenian defense attache for the Armenian Army ride in a simulated "Humvee" in the Virtual Combat Convoy Trainer.

Post Photos/Blackmon



## Post news in brief

### Pre-retirement orientation set

The semi-annual pre-retirement orientation will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 4 at Riley's Conference Center. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m.

This orientation is for individuals that have submitted their request for retirement; however, any Soldier contemplating retirement in the near future may attend.

The purpose of this orientation is to present information concerning rights, benefits and responsibilities in conjunction with retirement.

Soldiers that are eligible for early retirement because of medical reasons also should attend. Spouses of retiring personnel and prospective retirees are invited and encouraged to attend.

For more information, visit the Retirement Services Office in Building 210 or call 239-3320 or 239-3667.

### Vets Day alters trash collection

The refuse collection schedule will change Nov. 7-11 in observance of Veterans Day. The schedule is:

**Nov. 7** - Colyer Manor, Main Post, dumpster at Building 621. (No change from regular schedule.)

**Nov. 8** - Ellis Heights, O'Donnell Heights, Montieth Heights, Peterson Heights north of Thomas Avenue, dumpsters at Building 5309. (No change from regular schedule.)

**Nov. 9** - Warner Heights, Burnside Heights, Marshall Field and dumpsters at Buildings 28, 45, 470, 540, 542 and 621.

**Nov. 10** - Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Warner Heights, Peterson Heights south of Thomas Avenue and dumpsters at Building 5309.

**Nov. 11** - No pick up, Veterans Day holiday.

For more information, call Paul Cassella at 239-6274

### Course planned for unit reps

The next Equal Opportunity Representative Course will be conducted Oct. 31 through Nov. 10 at Riley's Conference Center. All company- and battalion-sized units must have a designated primary equal opportunity representative between the rank of staff sergeant and first lieutenant.

To enroll a Soldier in this course, fax an on-post school request to 239-6193.

For more information, call 239-3379 or 239-8433.

## Foreign officers visit Fort Riley

By Teena M. Barber  
IMSD PA Officer

International officers from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., visited Fort Riley Oct. 26 as part of the Security Assistance Training Field Activity Field Studies Program.

Seventy-eight international military students from 68 countries arrived at Fort Leavenworth in June to attend the U.S. Army Command and General Staff Officer Course.

While at Fort Riley, the students met with the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) operations officer and assistant division commanders, ate lunch with Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans and experienced hands-on training with the Close Combat Tactical Trainer.

Their attendance at the college is part of the U.S. Security Assistance Program that is part of the

wide range of State Department programs available to other countries.

After attending the course, the students return to their countries with the skills required to help defend and preserve their national security interests, which supports U.S. foreign policy objectives.

During their stay, the international military students also experience many facets of life and culture in the United States.

Through a formal Field Studies Program, they visit and view examples of U.S. economic or business interests, judicial systems, local, state and federal governmental systems and educational systems.

The students also were scheduled to visit Kansas State University during the week. That visit was to include briefings about agriculture, engineering and education as well as a campus tour.

GEARY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

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Black Only

3X15 DOC'S DIRECTORY



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KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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# Pakistan relief effort to increase

## Commander: U.S. troop involvement will exceed 1,000

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**  
AFPS

WASHINGTON – More than 1,000 U.S. servicemembers will soon be assisting earthquake relief efforts in Pakistan, a senior U.S. officer told Pentagon reporters Oct. 24.

Navy Rear Adm. Michael A. LeFever, commander of the U.S. relief effort in Pakistan, said the number of American troops now providing humanitarian relief in Pakistan – about 560 – will be augmented in coming days by more medical personnel, helicopter aircrews, engineers and other personnel.

Parts of northern Pakistan were devastated by an Oct. 8 earthquake. Pakistan requested U.S. and international assistance to help it cope with the natural disaster. LeFever arrived in Islamabad, Pakistan, on Oct. 10 to head U.S. military relief efforts in the region.

He said U.S. and other contributing-nation aircrews have provided stricken Pakistanis "with much-needed helicopter airlift" of

food, tents, blankets and medicines. The helicopters have proven particularly useful, he said, in evacuating injured Pakistanis from mountainous regions.

More flights of U.S. C-130 cargo planes are slated, the admiral said, to airdrop more needed humanitarian supplies to remote areas.

The government of Pakistan recently requested more U.S. humanitarian assistance, LeFever said, which involves "clearing roads and some medical help and, of course, the much needed helicopter airlift that we're providing."

The medical help involves the setting up of U.S. military mobile surgical hospitals, he said.

As of Oct. 24, U.S. helicopters had delivered 1.8 million pounds of relief supplies and aid to the battered region, LeFever said.

American military aircraft, he added, also had transported more than 2,500 injured Pakistanis.

The U.S. Army planned to send six more CH-47 Chinook helicopters to Pakistan by Oct. 28 to help with airlifting supplies from

Chaklala Air Base near Islamabad to remote, mountainous areas in the northeast portion of the country.

The added helicopters will join 12 other U.S. helicopters already working in Pakistan since Oct. 11: five Army Chinooks, three Army UH-60 Black Hawks, two Navy MH-53 Sea Stallions and two Navy MH-60 Knighthawks, according to a U.S. Disaster Assistance Center-Pakistan news release.

The U.S. Navy's amphibious assault ship USS Tarawa, amphibious transport dock USS Cleveland and amphibious dock landing ship USS Pearl Harbor are providing humanitarian support from the Pakistani seaport of Karachi, the admiral said.

On Oct. 24, the Pearl Harbor arrived in Karachi for the second time during the week, carrying 140 tons of food, blankets, mattresses and other supplies destined for the earthquake-devastated regions in Pakistan.

The supplies were donated by Pakistanis living in the United Arab Emirates.

Those relief supplies will be "transferred into the hands of the Pakistani Army for rapid delivery to the most affected areas," said Mary Witt, the U.S. Consul General in Karachi.

LeFever said U.S. troops are in Pakistan "for the long haul" at the request of its government.

"We continue to assess on the ground and help our friends," LeFever said.



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# Chairman's enlisted advisor explains duties

By Jim Garamone  
AFPS

WASHINGTON – The senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will spend more time listening than talking, he said during a Pentagon interview Oct. 11.

Joint Chiefs Chairman Marine Gen. Peter Pace chose Army Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey as the first senior enlisted advisor to the nation's highest ranking military officer last month.

Gainey will serve as the chairman's eyes and ears on enlisted force matters. The sergeant major will advise Pace on enlisted education, health, welfare, morale and housing issues for servicemembers in joint billets.

"The key to that is 'joint,'" he said. He won't get involved in service-specific matters. "They already have senior enlisted advisors," he said.

He will, however, work closely with the service senior NCOs and they will constantly share information and impressions with one another. "All six of us working together – because the Coast Guard is a big part of this too – and, staying focused on the servicemembers, the winners are the servicemembers," Gainey said.

He said that military and civilian leaders owe servicemembers four things.

First, they need to give servicemembers "all the responsibility that they can hold."

"Then we have to give them the authority they need to be responsible," he said.

Thirdly, he said the military must hold people accountable for their actions. "People want that," Gainey said. "Everyone wants to be accountable for their actions, good and bad."

Finally, he said, senior person-

nel must stand ready to assist servicemembers when they stumble. "I will help you by coaching teaching, mentoring and training," he said.

Gainey has been a noncommissioned officer for 29 of his 30 years in the military. He said NCOs must constantly ask what they can do as leaders "to help our young people."

### Gainey came from top 3rd Corps position

He comes to the newly created position after service as the command sergeant major of the Army's 3rd Corps. The corps served as the command element of Multinational Corps-Iraq during a deployment that ended Feb. 10. "So I'm used to working in a joint environment," he said. "We had all services working together in Iraq."

Gainey also has family mem-

bers in every service but the Coast Guard. "And I'm working on that," he said with a laugh. He said he has known many of the senior NCOs in the sister services for years.

Gainey doesn't intend to change the way he has been doing things. "I've been a sergeant major for 10 years," he said. "There's two ways sergeants major can do things: They sit behind a desk and they figure out what should happen, or they get out and see what's happening. And the best way to figure out what should happen is to get out and talk to the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen."

"Those folks tell me what their concerns are, and then I establish my objectives."

He said in his first year he will get out and listen to the concerns of servicemembers around the world.

While his primary focus is on joint service, he will not ignore anything. "If I see something that concerns me, I'll work to solve it at the lowest possible level," he said.

### Military learned joint ops lesson

Gainey said the U.S. military has learned the lessons of jointness, and the younger servicemembers inherently understand that. He said when he was in Fallujah, he asked a young Marine how he liked fighting alongside the Army. "He told me, 'Sergeant major, we got it figured out. You old guys haven't figured it out. We know together we are unbeatable.'"

"We have to fight together, because when you fight alone, what do you have? Nothing but yourself," Gainey said.

The biggest change Gainey said he has seen in 30 years of service is the willingness to give servicemembers the responsibility and authority and let them do the mission. "When I came in 30 years ago, young Pfc. Gainey couldn't do anything without permission," he said. "It was a lock-step. Now we expect young people to think and then to act."

Gainey said he can't foresee the day when the military services lose their individual culture and identity, but he does expect closer cooperation among the services.

"When I was in Iraq and spoke with servicemembers, I would ask them to take their fingers and cover up their branch," he said. "I'd ask, 'What do you have left?' They'd answer, 'U.S.' I'd tell them, 'That's right - us.' We're not trying to take away their identity, we need them to understand we have to work together with one focus."



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1. *Journal of Management Education*, 2006, 30(1), 10-20.



## Quiet 'Hummer'

Spec. Jeffrey Hammes (left) points out features on the Hybrid "Humvee," operationally tested recently at Fort Campbell, Ky. Soldiers there drove it about 10 kilometers on just battery power and more than 100 kilometers on a combination of battery and diesel power. The Hybrid "Humvee," developed by Natick, ARDEC and the U.S. Army Research Institute for Environmental Medicine — was on display in Washington, D.C., at the Association of the U.S. Army annual meeting. The prototype is not set for production because design "bugs" need to be worked out, including slow movement on electrical power and a sticking throttle when operating in hybrid mode.

ANSSheffield



## School trains 5,400-plus students

*Varied curriculum, flexible capability key to meeting needs*

By Kristin Kemplin

363d MPAD

The Fort Riley Troop School trained more than 5,400 Soldiers and civilians in more than 25 different skills this year, according to a report presented by Troop School Chief Ray E. Arnold on Oct. 18.

The Troop School, located in Building 7305, offers courses in training, maintenance and medical tasks to the Army family: Soldiers, family members, Department of the Army civilians and contract personnel.

Although the Troop School cannot award additional skill identifiers or a higher skill level to Soldiers, many of them attend the school to gain additional skills for duties assigned to them by their unit.

To help fulfill the requirements of unit commanders, the Troop

School assists many units mobilized or stationed at Fort Riley to teach Soldiers additional assigned duties, such as unit armorer, field sanitation and supply, said Arnold, a retired sergeant first class.

Combat lifesaver, NBC (nuclear, biological and chemical) and combatives courses garner the greatest demand by enlisted Soldiers. Although the demand varies with the amount of deploying Soldiers, Arnold recommends signing up for these courses 90 days in advance, if possible.

"What we have on the schedule is a guideline. We adjust as necessary," he said.

The course schedule is flexible and courses can be offered as needed to make sure that all who want to be trained can be trained, Arnold said.

"Sometimes we will start courses with as little as 24 hours notice," said John Truitt, instruc-

tor coordinator working with the Troop School and Barton County Community College (BCCC).

The Troop School partners with BCCC to offer these courses at no cost to the Army family. Students can gain college credit upon completion of courses at the school. Arnold said he estimates the Troop School has saved the Army more than \$1 million in training costs for fiscal year 2005.

The school uses 17 instructors, and more than half of them retired from military service.

Some courses require that the instructor have prior military experience and others require civilian certification, said Truitt, a retired Army first sergeant.

"For most of the courses, we do require that the instructors have some military experience because some of what is being taught is not found on the civilian (workforce) side," he said. "But, not only do they have to have experi-

ence in that area, they need to have documented training and teaching experience in that area."

Two civilians with BCCC and three family members are certified to teach on the instructional team, Arnold said.

Most of the classes are conducted in a classroom setting with occasional off-site hands-on training, Truitt said. Course length ranges from two days to six weeks with the average being six days, Arnold said.

The Troop School receives guidelines on courses to offer from the installation's training staff (G3).

Fort Riley's On-Post Schools Catalog is available at Education Services in Building 7305. To request Troop School training, contact the Troop School training coordinator, Jerald Busing in Building 7305 or call him at 239-5452.

## Unit bus drivers graduate course

*Training keeps Army rolling*

By Brandon R. Bonner

363rd MPAD

Soldiers can always march to where they need to go, but wheeled transportation can usually get them there faster.

Spec. Daniel D. Weiche, an infantryman with 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, is well aware of this, which is why he agreed to become a bus driver for his company.

Weiche and seven other students completed the bus driver training offered by Fort Riley's Troop School on Oct. 19. "The training was great," but "it was a little bit of a challenge to drive a 65-passenger bus," he said.

Bus driver training is a 45-hour course geared toward teaching Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians to operate and maintain a military bus while complying with federal, state and applicable Fort Riley Regulations. Some of the maneuvers students learn during this course include negotiating a serpentine course, parking a bus, backing up and driving long-nosed and snub-nosed buses.

To take the course, the student must have a valid driver's license, have experience driving a 2 1/2-ton or larger truck and have had no at-fault motor vehicle accidents or serious moving traffic violations in the past two years.

Although students who complete the course do not actually receive a commercial driver's license, there are other benefits to taking the course. For instance, Weiche said, "you get to see areas of Kansas you wouldn't normally see."

During training, the students practice driving on highways, two-lane roads and through all types of traffic. Some of the places they visited as part of their training were Topeka and McPherson, Kan.

### Next courses:

Nov. 1-9

Dec. 8-16

Jan. 4-12

Feb. 21-March 1

"We typically drive an average of 350 to 400 miles a day," said Kenneth A. Martin, primary instructor for the bus driver's course.

Students who complete the course are authorized to drive off the installation with a military driver's license in order to transport Soldiers to and from the range and other training locations, said Ray E. Arnold, the Troop School chief.

Also upon completion of the course, students are eligible for three college credits.

Having individual Soldiers qualified as bus drivers is beneficial to units. The Army's training schedule is very demanding, Weiche pointed out, so if a Soldier is certified to drive a military bus, then his unit "can check out the bus at the prescribed time and be where they need to be" without waiting around for someone else to pick them up.

The purpose of the class is "to fulfill a unit commander's requirement for transporting Soldiers to and from training sites and whatever (other) training requires mass transportation," Arnold said.

The Troop School on post has a six-day bus driver course every month; but, "units can request classes anytime," Arnold said. "We're flexible."

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## Post news in brief

### Center to host benefits fair

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Building 319 on Marshall Avenue, will host a benefits fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 1.

Benefit plan representatives will be present to answer questions and to provide open season health care packets.

Occupational health representatives will be present from 9 to 11 a.m. to give free blood pressure checks and to provide information.

### Division staff slates training

The Environmental Division, DPW has scheduled the following training courses in November:

**Environmental Team Training:** Class begins at 9 a.m. each day Nov. 7-8 in Room 6, Building 407. The course lasts two days.

Environmental Team training certifies environmental team leaders and members on how to safely handle hazardous materials and waste handling as well as spill responses at the unit level.

Leaders and team members must attend this course within 60 days of appointment to their duties.

**Environmental Team Training Refresher:** Class starts at 9 a.m. Nov. 21 in Room 6, Building 407. The class lasts 2 1/2 hours.

This course is an annual refresher to the Environmental Team training course.

**Battery Hazard Awareness Training (Code Name Lithium):** Class starts at 10 a.m. every Wednesday of each month in Building 1930 at Camp Funston. This class lasts one hour.

Code Name Lithium course is designed for key personnel who in their course of their duties receive, store, issue and then transport lithium batteries for disposal.

For information or to enroll in these classes, call 239-0446/2305 or check with the battalion schools noncommissioned officer.

### Leaf pick-up begins Oct. 31

Leaf pick-up with the Directorate of Public Works leaf vacuum machine will begin in areas of heavy tree concentration Oct. 31.

Weather permitting and with emphasis in housing areas, the leaf pick-up schedule is:

**Main Post** on Mondays and Tuesdays

**Marshall Army Airfield** on Wednesdays

**Camp Forsyth** on Thursdays

**Custer Hill** and other areas on Fridays

Leaves to be removed by the leaf vacuum should be raked or piled in rows on the lawn area adjacent to the curb, but not on the curb or street.

Leaf piles must not contain grass clippings, limbs or other heavy debris that would interfere with the vacuum operation.

The leaf vacuum will operate through November or as long as necessary to complete fall leaf removal.

Housing occupants desiring to confine leaves in trash bags may place these bags adjacent to the trash carts for pick-up by the trash collection contractor on regular pick-up days.

Bagged leaves should not weigh more than 40 pounds each.

Dumpsters containing bagged or loose leaves will not be emptied.

For more information, call Burton Shepherd at 239-3908.

## Iraq operations net suspects, bombs

Coalition and Iraqi forces nabbed 31 suspects and discovered several bombs in operations across Iraq between Oct. 21 and Oct. 23.

During raids on safe houses, Coalition forces killed two suspected terrorists in Mosul on Oct. 22 and detained 22 others near Ramadi Oct. 23.

Coalition forces found the safe house in Mosul empty when they arrived. However, they were engaged by terrorists occupying two nearby houses.

Coalition forces assaulted both houses and were attacked with grenades and small-arms fire. During the firefight, they killed the two terrorists and several others fled.

Based on multiple intelligence sources, Coalition forces launched a series of raids on al Qaeda safe houses in Ramadi used to hide terrorists and launch attacks against Iraqi security and Coalition forces. The raids netted the 22 suspected terrorists.

In Baghdad, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers detained three suspects and found six roadside bombs before they could be detonated.

Iraqi police found a potential bomb in the Bayaa district of southern Baghdad Oct. 23. They took charge of the device consisting of a 120mm shell with TNT and small bottles of gas with nails.

Another U.S. patrol found a



bomb consisting of two 155mm rounds in a fuel can on a road southeast of Baghdad Oct. 23. The Soldiers secured the area and called in an explosive ordnance disposal team to destroy the bomb.

Responding to a mortar attack north of Baghdad on Oct. 22, a U.S. patrol stopped a suspicious vehicle in the area. The occupants had been seen retrieving an object from a bush along the road.

A search of the vehicle turned up a video camera and footage recording the mortar impacts. Two individuals were detained for further questioning.

Earlier in the day, another Task Force Baghdad unit patrolling Bayaa detained a suspected terrorist who was carrying a loaded rocket-propelled grenade launcher.

In east Abu Ghraib on Oct. 22, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 22nd

experts destroyed what was determined to be a car bomb.

Task Force Baghdad Soldiers halted several terrorist attacks in and around Baghdad before they could be carried out Oct. 21.

One patrol south of Baghdad found two 130mm rounds with wires leading from the road to a nearby house. Within minutes, the patrol found a second roadside bomb. The Soldiers secured the site and discovered an individual hiding in the bushes. He and another individual were detained.

Later in the day, a patrol operating west of Baghdad spotted and engaged three terror suspects preparing to fire a rocket-propelled grenade. The terrorists dropped the weapon and ran.

Task Force Baghdad Soldiers gave chase and caught one individual. During the pursuit, they also found a bomb.

Another unit conducting combat operations in northwest Baghdad found a bomb consisting of two 155mm rounds buried and wired for remote-controlled detonation.

Explosives ordnance teams destroyed both devices.

Compiled from *Multinational Force-Iraq, Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq and Task Force Baghdad news releases.*

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# Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, October 28, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 13

## Sports news in brief

### Cats to hold open practice

The Kansas State women's basketball team will hold an open practice on Oct. 29 at Bramlage Coliseum prior to the Wildcats' homecoming football game against Colorado.

Doors to the northeast and northwest entrances of Bramlage Coliseum will open to the public at 10:30 a.m. with practice ending at 11:45 a.m. Fans can register to win an autographed basketball signed by the entire 2005-06 squad as well as pick-up team roster and schedule cards on the concourse level.

The Wildcats host Emporia State in an exhibition match-up scheduled for Nov. 8 at 7 p.m., prior to the season opener Nov. 20 against Detroit at 2 p.m. To order tickets, call 1-800-221-CATS.

### Fitness, skate activities slated

**Oct. 30** - 2 to 4 p.m., Riley Wheels at King Field House, family skate, \$1 charge to ID card holder.

**Oct. 31** - Noon to 1 p.m., King Field House, fitness yoga.

**Oct. 31** - 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., King Field House, cardio pump aerobics.

**Nov. 2** - 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., King Field House, cardio pump aerobics.

**Nov. 3** - Noon to 1 p.m., King Field House, fitness yoga. For more information, call 239-2813.

### Bowling center offers variety

**Oct. 29** - 4 to 7 p.m., adult and child costume party. Lunch available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Custer Hill Lanes, Building 7485, offers open bowling 5 to 11 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, 5 to 10 p.m. Fridays and 3 to 11 p.m. Saturdays.

Extreme bowling under strobe lighting is offered 10 p.m. to close Friday. Family extreme and bowling is offered 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday and family open and extreme bowling is offered 3 to 10 p.m. Sundays.

Family extreme bowling costs \$15 per lane for six persons.

Couples are being sought for a "fun" league to begin this fall. Sign up at the center or call 239-4366 for more information.

### Rink open for family fun

Riley Wheels Skating Rink in King Field House operates from 8 to 10 p.m. Fridays, 6 to 8 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m. Saturdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays. Family skating is offered for \$1 per family member on Sundays.

For more information, call 239-3764.

### Eyster Pool open for swim

Recreational swimming is available from 1 to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Eyster Pool near the Main Post Exchange.

Daily fees are \$1.50 for ID card holders and \$2 for guests. Military family members 5 and younger admitted free. For more information, call 239-9441.

## 'The Sarge' scores racing hat trick

By William Thurmond  
Army News Service

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Tony "The Sarge" Schumacher came to "The Strip" at Las Vegas Motor Speedway one qualifying run shy of locking up his second consecutive top fuel NHRA Powerade drag racing championship.

No pressure or drama — all he had to do was cut a clean light and clear the starting line. So you would be excused to think that

Schumacher would play it safe and go for the easy win. Not hardly. Not "Sarge." Not ever.

Instead, he went out and locked up the title on run No. 1. He then swept the entire event, decisively winning his fourth consecutive NHRA meet Oct. 21.

As if that weren't enough, he drove to victory Oct. 22 in the prestigious Budweiser Shootout All-Star event. It was his first win in that competition, where he was the No. 1 qualifier. The closest he

had gotten previously was his run-up finish to Doug Kalitta in 2003.

Relaxing after his title-clinching win Oct. 21 with some of the pressure off, it was evident that winning a championship wasn't about to satisfy a man like Schumacher.

He wanted more. And he and his Army team meant to get it.

"If you ask an athlete why you're great, most don't know," Schumacher said. "For whatever reason, you put a group together

that wants to win so bad that that's what life's about for them.

"That's why we're here, not to merely stage and get the championship. We're here to win each race, kick butt and put an exclamation point on why we're world champions."

If Webster's dictionary needed an illustration of intensity and competitive spirit, they'd be wise to use a photo of Schumacher in his Army fire suit just after winning a race.

Schumacher said his Army racing team approached each 2005 race with the same take-no-prisoners attitude. Simply put, the secret to their phenomenal success was consistency.

"We couldn't have won today if we hadn't won the first, fifth or 10th race. We were going for the win every single time," Schumacher said.

The first stage of the first race in Pomona last spring, we went to the line knowing that in 23 races someone would emerge as the

See 'The Sarge', Page 14

## Getting fit



Gary Thompson of Education Services tests how much weight he can push while fitness guide Kim Miller looks on.

## Fitness program participants assessed

Staff report

Thirty-three civilian employees recently took a step toward a better fitness level.

The assessment of their current fitness came as part of the third installment of the My Life Fitness Program. Participants went through their pre-fitness assessments Oct. 21, 25 and 27 at King Field House.

Assessment included lifting weights, stretching and measuring blood pressure and heart rates. The assessments are designed to be a starting point for the program. Six months from now, these pre-assessments will be compared to post-assessments to show each individual's progress.

Program participants are slated to meet with trainers Nov. 1 and 2 to review and

See Fitness, Page 14



John Swan, rec aide with the Fort Riley Sports Office, watches as Veronica Pope of DPTMS security division, stretches during fitness pre-assessments Oct. 21 at King Field House.

Post/Blackman

## Strange growths popping up in Kansas yards

By Alan Hynek

Fish and Wildlife Biologist



Alan Hynek

**Q.** If April showers bring May flowers, what do August showers bring?

**A.** Lots of really strange mushrooms.

The past couple of months have witnessed one of the stranger crops of mushrooms to appear in these parts in quite some time. Although the peak seems to have passed with the recent cooler weather, you can still see a few

scattered oddities in yards around post.

The Conservation Office gets one or two mushroom calls a year, but this year we had quite a few more. Identifying mushrooms is inherently a difficult task even for those with years of experience. For the experts though, mushrooms are separated into two groups: Basidiomycota - mushrooms with spores born in gills - or Ascomycota - mushrooms with spores born in sacs.

For us lay persons, mushrooms

seem to fall into much simpler groups: edible or poisonous.

Mushrooms are the fruiting body of a fungus that produces microscopic spores. Some fungi produce a mushroom every year, while some reproduce a mushroom only under very limited conditions. Most live underground or within a decaying organism, such as a tree trunk, and attain their energy from dead and decaying material, such as wood, plants and insects.

More than 60,000 species of higher

fungi exist throughout the world and about 750 are known to occur in Kansas. While some fungi are easy to identify, others are extremely difficult and are best left to an expert, particularly if you are considering them for consumption. They can also be found nearly year around, even in the dead of winter, and in a variety of conditions.

One of the better known mushrooms, the morel, is a commonly sought after commodity on Fort Riley each spring. Morels are easily identifiable and can be plentiful. They are

See Mushrooms, Page 14





# Infantry team remains unbeaten

By Stephanie Perrin  
Staff writer

Despite falling rain and a muddy field, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech), remained undefeated in company level flag football play Oct. 19, defeating 331st Signal Company 21-20 at Sturgis Stadium.

The Signalmen used the rain and quickly darkening skies to their advantage on their first play, sending Quarterback Robert Shepherd to the 40-yard line for a first down.

They gained 10 yards on the next play and then tried to score. Jason Sheets caught a pass that moved the ball to the 30-yard line, where he launched an incomplete second pass to Marlon Beach in the end zone.

On second down, Scott Martin caught a pass and moved the Signalmen to the Infantry's 18-yard line, giving them a first down.

Shepherd then threw to Beach, who was waiting in the end zone, to score the Signalmen's first touchdown.

An offside penalty kept them from scoring extra points and they were moved back five yards to try again. The second try for extra points also failed.

The Infantry's offense used only two plays to reach the end zone and the game at 6-0. Alberto Camacho caught a pass on their first down and ran to the Signalmen's 20-yard line.

On the second play of their series, Michael Charles caught Infantry Quarterback Richard Ryder's pass and threw the ball to Justin Bailey for the touchdown.

Ryder ran in the extra point attempt to give the Infantry a 7-6 lead.

Signal's offense took the field and, again, earned a first down as Shepherd ran the ball to the 40-

yard line.

An offside penalty cost the Signalmen five yards before they swapped positions on the field to start the second quarter.

Shepherd pitched to Jason Sheets for no yardage on an incomplete pass to Chris Thompson forced the Signalmen to punt.

The Infantry took the punt to their own 20-yard line and went to the air again. Charles grabbed the toss for a 10-yard gain.

Ryder's pass found Camacho, who ran for a few yards before passing the ball back to Ryder.

Ryder gathered in the pignisk and sprinted past defenders all the way to the Signalmen's 10-yard line.

Bailey grabbed a pass in the end zone for the Infantry's second touchdown. The extra point attempt was successful to Tim Hanson, and the Infantry led 14-6.

The Signalmen's next offensive drive didn't last long. Shepherd ran the ball to his own 30-yard line. A pass to Michael Wake on the next play from scrimmage was incomplete.

Shepherd made up for that by passing to Sheets who quickly threw the ball downfield to Jadakiss Milo on the Infantry's 20-yard line.

Then the wet field took its toll on the Signalmen. Shepherd fell after sliding in the mud. That cost the Signalmen five yards. An offside penalty on their second down cost Signal an additional five yards.

The Infantry's Patrick Wood stopped the Signalmen's aerial attack with an interception on the next play and a run that lined the Infantry's offense on the Signalmen's 20-yard line.

Two plays later, the Infantry marched into the end zone with a Ryder pass to Ben Miller on the 1-yard line and a touchdown run by Ryder on the second play.

The attempted extra point pass

## Flag football scores

1st Maint Co. won by forfeit against Btry. A, 1st Bn., 5th FA

MEDDAC defeated Btry D., 1st Bn., 5th FA, 18-12

HHC, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech), won by forfeit against HHC/Co. A, 101st FSB

977th MPs won by forfeit against Btry A, 1st Bn., 5th FA

172nd Chem. Co. defeated HHC, 1st Bn., 5th FA, 38-20

Co. C, 1st Eng. Bn., defeated Co. A, 1st Bn., 190th FA (MP Prov.), 26-18

Co. A, 1st Eng. Bn., defeated 1st Maint. Co., 38-35

MEDDAC vs. 116th MP Co. was cancelled due to lightning

to Hanson was successful and boosted the Infantry's lead to 21-6.

The Signalmen's offense retaliated quickly. Sheets caught a pass on first down and ran the ball to their own 38-yard line for a first down. A long pass found a Signal receiver in the end zone and a successful two-point attempt after the touchdown moved the Signalmen within seven points of the undefeated Infantry squad, 21-14.

Ryder began the Infantry's next offensive attack with a 10-yard pass to Camacho. A long pass to Charles was nearly intercepted, but the Infantry continued its aerial bombardment to Bailey on third down for a 1-yard gain and on fourth down to Camacho, who

passed to Hanson on the 3-yard line.

Signal's Chris Thompson stymied the Infantry's touchdown effort by sacking the quarterback five yards behind the line of scrimmage.

Ryder recomposed himself and tossed to Camacho who then attempted unsuccessfully to pass the ball back to Ryder in the end zone.

Ryder tucked the ball to his side and ran the ball to the 5-yard line on the next two plays.

Cheers erupted from the Signalmen's sideline when a pass to Camacho in the end zone on fourth down was unsuccessful.

The Signal offense moved the ball to the Infantry 35-yard line on the next two plays.

The wet weather, however, played its own game. A Signal pass on first down was incomplete because Sheets slipped and fell before he could catch the ball. Two more incomplete passes were thrown to Thompson and Wood before the Infantry's defense intercepted a pass intended for Wood.

A pass to Charles on the Infantry's first down placed them on the Signalmen's 10-yard line. A signal defender knocked away a pass to Ryan in the end zone.

The Infantry couldn't gain any yardage on their second down when a pass to Camacho was also incomplete. However, they moved to the 5-yard line when Miller caught a pass.

The next pass went to Miller in the end zone on fourth down, but it was incomplete and the Infantry defense took the field.

The Signal offense appeared determined to use their last offensive chance to take the lead. Shepherd ran the ball to the Infantry's 30-yard for a first down, but a blocking-the-flag penalty was called and they were forced back 15 yards.

The Signalmen's chance at a comeback appeared to have ended on second down when the Infantry's Raymond Doffney intercepted a pass and threw the ball to Miller, who ran it into the end zone.

The Infantry's moment of celebration was short-lived, however because they were called on a roughing penalty that called the play back and gave the Signalmen a chance to repeat the down.

Beach caught a long pass in the end zone and the Signalmen trailed by one point, 21-20. The extra point attempt was no good.

With only one play remaining in the game, the Signal fans and team members rooted for an interception. That chance never came. Ryder opted to take a knee on the last play of the game for the Infantry's 21-20 victory.



Post/Skidmore

## Blocked kick

Kansas State University kicker, Tim Reyer gets his punt blocked by Texas A&M's Kerry Franks during the Wildcats 30-28 home loss against the Aggies Oct. 22.

The Wildcats take on north rival Colorado at 1:10 p.m. Oct. 29 at Wagner Field. The game is not televised but can be heard on one of the Mid America Sports Network's 32 affiliate stations: Junction City on 1420 AM, 102.5 FM; Manhattan on 1350 AM, 101.5 FM, 102.5 FM.

## Middle school plays

The seventh-grade Lady Troopers A and B teams split wins on the road against the Riley County Falcons Oct. 25. The A team won 43-12, while the B team lost 15-9.

The A team Troopers took the opening tip off, scoring quickly on the Falcons. With consistent team defense and solid post play, the Troopers amassed a 23-2 lead by the end of the first half.

The Troopers dominated most of the second half with quickness

on the point and post positions to take home a 43-12 win.

The B team hustled to keep the first half score close, down by two points to start the second half, aggressive defense thwarted off Falcon offensive threats. However, it wasn't enough to combat a late scoring surge by the Falcons, who came away with the 15-9 victory.

The eighth-grade girls team lost both of its games, 26-11 and 17-5 to Riley County Oct. 25.

## Fitness

continued from page 13

make sense of their assessment results. After that, a fitness plan and personal workout will be created for the duration of the program. Weekly classes also will be offered to help participants maintain a healthy lifestyle now and after the program's completion.

The third iteration of the program officially begins Nov. 7 and runs through May 7. Through the

program, participants will be given three administrative hours of leave a week to exercise.

"I want to get in better shape and lose a few pounds. I had done programs before, just to lose weight, and they didn't work," said Jackie Kuntz, a computer assistant at the Provost Marshal's Office. Hopefully, this one will, she said.

## Program participants

April Blackmon  
Carolyn Burch  
Rebecca Davis  
John Fontenot  
Paula Fultz  
Tina Gassen  
Dionne Greif  
Sam Guy  
Jim Hill  
Carla Hurlbert  
Raymond Johnson

Teresa Johnson  
David Jones  
Mark Keen  
Jacques Kuntz  
Denise Long  
Dawn Meadows  
Ralph Millard  
Nita Miller  
Alan Moberly  
Stephanie Perrin  
Don Peters

Veronica Pope  
David Porter  
Rhonda Redd  
John Rumpson  
David Sproat  
Theresa Stiner  
Gary Thompson  
Mitzi Tyrrell  
Paula Urban  
Steven Wahle  
Gary West



Post/Perrin

Patrick Wood of the 331st Signal Co. runs the ball past the marker to gain the first down as Brandon Morgan (center) of HHC, 24th ID (Mech), runs past Jadakiss Milo Oct. 19 at Sturgis Stadium.

## 'The Sarge'

continued from page 13

world champion. And we wanted to do it as soon as possible. Period," he said.

After every win this weekend, "Sarge" endured a protracted round of carefully staged photo opportunities with eagle-eyed PR reps alert to ensure that the right sponsor ball cap was on all the right heads and that the trophy was facing the right direction.

Standing quietly off to the side looking on, arms usually folded across his chest, was a grey-bearded man who many believe is the best at his job in the sport.

Alan Johnson, the Army's top

fuel crew chief, joined the team in mid-season of 2003. And the rest, as they say, is history.

With Johnson at the helm, Schumacher started winning like never before. Last year he led the team to a record 10 event wins on the way to the championship. It was Johnson's fourth NHRA title win.

So when Johnson says he knows why he's usually a part of winning efforts, smart people listen.

"The only way you can achieve success in this sport is by avoiding mistakes. Simply put, if you

make a mistake, you lose," Johnson said. "The teamwork we have allows us to make winning runs throughout the weekend because the members of our team avoid making mistakes. Everybody has to trust the other guys to do the right thing."

Johnson said that he and his crew always approach each run as though it's for a championship.

"We want everything to be perfect every time. If we do that, then I can make it run as well as it can on the racetrack. That's the way we attack it."

## Mushrooms

continued from page 13

commonly found among dead and dying elm trees but can literally be found just about anywhere.

Another commonly sought after mushroom is the Oyster Mushroom that typically can be found on cottonwood and elm trees. It is considered by many to be even better tasting than the morel.

As it goes with mushrooms, there are a few species that just about everyone can eat and a few that are just deadly poison. Then there are whole bunches of species somewhere in between. Even mushrooms commonly eaten by most people can cause a significant allergic reaction in others.

Most of the deadly mushrooms found in Kansas are in the genus Amanita and Galerina. The most

common deadly mushroom in Kansas is Amanita bisporigera, commonly referred to as the Angel of Death. Another is Galerina autumnalis or Deadly Galerina, which contains amatoxins and is also deadly poison.

The names on those last two ought to be enough to encourage extreme caution when consuming wild mushrooms. Remember, as the saying goes, there are old mushroom hunters and bold mushroom hunters, but there are no "old, bold" mushroom hunters.

The bottom line on any fungus, toadstool or mushroom: Consider them all to be poison unless you know for certain that they are edible. And when trying a new species, be sure to only try a small

portion in case you have an allergic reaction.

It is also a good idea not to eat large quantities of mushrooms over a relatively short time. They are known to pick up certain heavy metals that may generally be OK in small doses but could be toxic if a large quantity is consumed.

As to the original question though, climate was the biggest factor in the increased presence of mushrooms this year. Typically, most mushroom growth in Kansas occurs in the spring and fall when we receive most of our precipitation. But with the heavy rains last August, a number of fungi species produced a fruit (mushroom) that it would not have produced in a typical year.







# Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, October 28, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 15

## Community news briefly

### Costs prompt store request

The price of plastic shopping bags has increased \$2.22 per case. This is an 11.2 percent increase over the current price and computing at current usage, the commissary faces a \$75,000 increase in its operational costs per month. From January through April, the agency had reduced the use of plastic bags and reduced double bagging with paper bags to the extent that the agency was showing a savings over last year costs. But, since May, the use of plastic bags has been increasing. Faced with this huge cost increase, the Defense Commissary Agency is seeking to again reduce the use of plastic bags in its store.

Customers are being asked to accept paper bags for their groceries and to forego double bagging.

### Youth services lists activities

Oct. 29 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., free childcare for families with deployed Soldiers

Nov. 1-11 - Youth basketball registration

Nov. 3 - 4 to 5 p.m., Parent Advisory Council meeting

For more information, call 239-9173.

### Poetry group plans party

The Brothers 2, the Night poetry group from Irwin Army Community Hospital plans to host a Halloween costume party beginning at 8 p.m. Oct. 29 at the Marriott Hotel in Junction City. This party is for adults only.

The cost is \$5 in advance or \$8 at the door. Money will be used to support the group's monthly poetry nights in Junction City.

For more information, call (785) 375-2579.

### Adult book group forming

Fort Riley Post Library is inviting interested readers to join an adult reading group, "Book Talks."

Meetings will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. the first Thursday of each month. The first meeting will be Nov. 3.

For more information or to join the group, call 239-5305.

### Support Center activities listed

Oct. 28 - 8:30 a.m. to noon, spouse orientation tour of Fort Riley and community.

Nov. 3 - 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Family Readiness Group Point of Contact class

Nov. 17 - 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., FRG Leader Basic Class Army Family Team Building classes will be taught at the Soldiers and Family Support Center from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 2 and 16 and Dec. 7.

For more information, call the Soldier and Family Support Center at 239-9435.

### Trick or treat hours set

Approved Halloween trick or treat hours in post housing areas will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 31.

For more information, call Steven Tully, deputy director of the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, at 239-2433.

## Family programs still Army priority

By Tim Hips  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - More than \$200 million has been earmarked this fiscal year for Army family programs, said the Army's top personnel officer.

"We've been pushing this for years and it's gotten better and better every year," said Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, deputy chief of staff, Army G1, one of numerous speakers during a family forum Oct. 3-5.

Family readiness groups are an

official program of the Department of the Army and, as an official program, commanders can now use mission funds to support FRGs the same way they support other mission activities.

Hagenbeck said the Army is counting on families' feedback to help ensure the money is properly allocated.

### Family support key in transformation

Hagenbeck and other military leaders speaking at the family

forum, part of the Association of U.S. Army's annual meeting, stressed the importance of supporting Soldiers and their families during the Army's transformation.

"Too often we focus exclusively on those of us wearing uniforms, but I will tell you that all of you in this room recognize full well that it's much, much more than that," Hagenbeck said. "We need in many instances to do a better job than we do today in recognizing all the families, spouses and supporting agencies that reside inside our Army and all their components."

### New Web sites support families

Col. Dennis Dingle, director of the Army's human resources policy directorate, oversees programs dealing with alcohol and drug abuse, rest and recuperation leave, sexual assault, mentorship, redeployment and retirement, among others.

He introduced Web sites that included: [www.army.mil/wellbeing](http://www.army.mil/wellbeing), [www.sexualassault.army.mil](http://www.sexualassault.army.mil) and <http://mentorship.army.mil>, among others.

"There's so much to click on, your wrist may grow tired," said Dingle, who stressed military families' needs to serve, live, connect and grow. "There are some great initiatives out there in the field that we're going to take advantage of in the coming fiscal year. We're going to take some more trips out to see what those programs and services are and get the feedback on those programs so that we know how to make them better."

Only 10 percent seeking R&R  
See Programs, Page 19

## After-school fun



Sophie Lee (left), first-grader at Fort Riley Elementary School and Jacob Webb second-grader at FRES play football Oct. 20 at the School Age Services building. The students participated in activities to promote the national Lights On After School program.

## School Age Services hosts activity day

Stephanie Perrin  
Staff writer

The lights are on and a 12-foot inflatable light bulb is crossing the nation to promote it.

The large light bulb left Dallas on Sept. 20 to travel across the nation to promote the national Lights On After School program.

Fort Riley's School Age Services participated in the program Oct. 20 with relays and other activities for students after normal school hours.

The Lights On After School program was created to offer a safe environment for students during after-school hours, said Cynthia Flores, lead education technician at Fort Riley.

"After-school programs are helpful. We need them to provide a safe environment for a lot of children who are home alone after school," Flores said.

A potato, orange and dress-up relay

were some of the activities students participated in at the new SAS building next to the Teen Center. In one race, students ran across the gym floor holding a potato between their knees. In another, an orange was placed between two students' backs and they then worked together to carry the orange across the gym together.

In yet another relay race, a pile of clothes was placed at the opposite side of the gym. Students donned the items over their clothes, ran to the opposite side of the gym and then undressed and allowed their partner to put on the clothes.

"(The activities) required a lot of cooperation and teamwork," Flores said. Students who chose not to participate in the additional activities planned that day could still take advantage of the new building's rooms and resources, Flores said. The facility includes a home economics room, computer laboratory and game room.

An additional activity sponsored in conjunction with the Lights On After School

program is the daily Power Hour offered at the facility. Power Hour allows students an hour to complete or receive help with their homework, said Ayanna Francis, computer technician at SAS.

"Power Hour is a program that helps children have a different view of homework. It gives them a view of working independently and successfully," Francis said.

The post SAS program was recently approved for a \$5,000 grant, Francis said. The income will be used to buy a copy of each textbook used at elementary schools on Fort Riley, she said.

In addition to activities offered at the facility, students enrolled in SAS are taken on field trips, Flores said. The students recently toured a dental clinic and fire station, she said.

SAS is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and enrollment is based on the parent's military rank, Flores said. For more information, call 239-9220.

## DeCA offers online store

### Commissary shopping goes virtual

By Bonnie Powell  
DeCA

FORT LEE, Va. - Commissary shoppers looking for a different kind of gift for friends or family at home or abroad can let their "fingers do the clicking" at the new Virtual Commissary.

Located under the shopping link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com), Virtual Commissary will open up a whole new world of Internet shopping for authorized users of the commissary benefit.

"We're excited about DeCA's first adventure into the world of Internet shopping," said Patrick B. Nixon, DeCA's chief executive officer and acting director.

Initially, one of DeCA's business partners, Kraft Foods, Inc., is kicking off Internet shopping with a selection of gift baskets. "But the number of vendors and manufacturers participating will continue to increase - along with the variety of products," Nixon said.

All of the products in the gift baskets at Virtual Commissary can be found on the shelves of "brick and mortar" commissaries, but the unique packaging of products into gift and special occasion baskets adds a new twist.

With titles like "Camouflage," "Drill Sergeant" and "Touch of Home," the baskets offer assortments of crackers, canned cheeses, cookies, candies and even beverages and coffee packs.

To access the extended commissary, shoppers must pass through a secure portal found under the shopping link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

See Commissary, Page 17

### Marriage and Military Life

## Strategies for dealing with toddlers, deployments

By Gene-Thomas Gomulka  
Retired Navy chaplain

Dear Gene-Thomas, When my husband deploys, our daughter, who ordinarily is well behaved, turns into someone else by fighting with her sister, back talking and not listening to me. Can you give me any guidance to make deployments easier on her?

— Amanda

Dear Amanda,

One of the nine chapters in "The Survival Guide for Marriage

in the Military is devoted to "Toddler Strategies." In this chapter, I point out that "children react differently to deployments depending on their age, personality and how often a parent may have deployed in the past."

Just as some children of parents who are going through a divorce sometimes blame themselves for the pain the family is experiencing, so too do some children in military families mistakenly feel they are responsible for the departure of a deployed parent.

In experiencing feelings of loss

Gene-Thomas Gomulka is a retired Navy chaplain.

Have a question? Write Gene-Thomas at [letters@plaintext.net](mailto:letters@plaintext.net)



and abandonment they can't fully express, some children display disruptive behavior in reaction to the change of the family unit. For example, one boy who didn't have a sister to pick on when his father

discipline.

Some counselors who speak with parents like you point out that "a lot of what children are exhibiting (everything from insomnia to irritability) are signs of stress and probably caused by separation anxiety."

They also note that some children may tend not to communicate their problems to the mother because she is also suffering the same stress and any such conversation might escalate each other's worries. Mom now stresses

See Toddlers, Page 20





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## Community news briefly

### Rally Point offers variety

Oct. 28 - 5 to 8 p.m., Kid's Halloween Party

Nov. 1 - WWE Pay-Per-View: Taboo Tuesday

Nov. 2 - Wing Night, 20-cent wings and dance music 8 p.m. to close

Nov. 3 - Dance Music Wednesdays - Krazy Karaoke and 20-cent wing night 5 to 9 p.m.

Thursdays - Request night Fridays - Family night with movie, dance and buffet from 5 to 8 p.m. and mixed dance night from 8 p.m. to close

Saturdays - Hip Hop from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. Sunday with DJ Monroe

Sundays - NFL football, six games on TV, doors open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

For more information, call Rally Point at 784-5434.

### Arts council seeks teachers

The Junction City Arts Council is preparing to participate in the Geary County Unified School District 475 after-school program and is looking for someone who can instruct fifth-grade students in origami. The classes will be from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. on Nov. 15 and 16 or Nov. 29 and 30, whichever dates fit better in the instructor's schedule.

Anyone who can instruct these classes is asked to call the JCAC at 762-2581.

### Teen Center slates activities

Oct. 28 - 8 to 10 p.m., fall festival costume party

Oct. 29 - 5 to 8 p.m., family potluck

Nov. 4 - 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance

Staff Sgt. Maria Malone of MED-DAC and Staff Sgt. Howard Pastran of DEN-TAC demonstrate one of the Hispanic dances performed during Fort Riley's Hispanic Heritage Month Observance Oct. 19.

Post/Blackmon



By Jennifer Whipple  
19th PAD

Fort Riley's Hispanic heritage observance Oct. 19 took a look at "Hispanic Americans: Strong colorful threads in the American fabric."

The post's Equal Opportunity Office sponsored the annual event at Riley's Conference Center to promote cultural awareness, tolerance and education.

The event was open to Fort Riley Soldiers, spouses and the local civilian community, said Sgt. 1st Class Lonnie Powell, EO advisor and noncommissioned-officer-in-charge of the observance.

The observance featured guest speaker Federico Rodriguez, director of Fort Riley Education Services, Latino dancing performed by Soldiers from the Dental Activity and Medical Department Activity, food sampling and displays set up by the Geary County Latino Organization, Powell said.

Lt. Col. Robert Foutz, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) EO program manager, welcomed everyone by sharing his thoughts on cultural awareness.

"We are here to try and create a cultural window which we can

look through and learn about other cultures," he said. "When we learn about other cultures, we learn about ourselves."

Looking through that cultural window Oct. 19, attendees observed examples of traditional Latino dancing, such as the merengue, salsa, cumbia and bachata.

The dances are very romantic in nature, said Staff Sgt. Maria Malone of MEDDAC.

They are about love and usually about a guy trying to woo a girl. The dances are fun to do, she said.

Members of the Geary County Latino Organization and their president, Ricardo Lopez, provided a display and were available to answer questions from members of the community about the Latino culture.

"We try to promote respect for the many cultures within our community and to promote awareness of the many Latino cultures that impact and comprise our community," Lopez said.

Education and awareness was the focal point of the day's events.

Rodriguez emphasized both issues with great enthusiasm. Rodriguez, a former Infantry officer and an Oregon native, emphasized the alarming drop out rate of Latinos between the ages of 16 and 24.

Rodriguez said, family and a closely knit community like the Army can help combat those issues and empower Latinos and people of all ethnic backgrounds.

"We all need to be involved in helping to develop the future leaders, regardless of ethnicity," he said. "We have a commitment to our future leaders to empower them. Not everyone feels empowered, and we need to work on that."

Foutz presented Rodriguez with a framed poster depicting individuals of Hispanic descent over woven fabric.

"Each person is a thread, and when they are sewn together they become strong and become one piece," Foutz said. "Dr. Rodriguez is part of that fabric, and he is trying to help sew the pieces together."

Staff Sgt. Claude Philippe, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech), chemical staff NCO attended the observance to learn about Latino culture and promote tolerance within his unit.

"I think it's important to learn about different cultures," Philippe said. "It is important to learn about the different cultures that make up the Army because we work together as one. The more we learn about each other, the more we are able to understand each other."

## Commissary

continued from page 15

Personal information entered by the customer is validated to ensure they are an authorized shopper.

Access is dependent on whether the customer is entered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

Military exchanges use a similar method to check for authorization before permitting access to exchange Web sites or online shopping.

DoD civilians stationed overseas who are otherwise authorized to shop at commissaries may not be able to access Virtual Commissary until changes are made to the DEERS database by the Defense Manpower Data Center, said DeCA officials. DMDC is targeting completion of the changes for late November.

Virtual Commissary customers can make selections and fill in their payment and shipping information in one easy and secure step before being transferred to the manufacturer's site, where they can get total cost for the product (including the shipping) and finalize their purchase.

Shipping and handling charges are paid by the customer, just as at

most other Internet shopping sites, and charges will vary depending on the method of shipping selected, location and the speed of delivery requested.

Customers can check for availability of delivery to APO and FPO addresses as well as get more

information on what's in the gift baskets by clicking on the image of the gift basket at Virtual Commissary.

Payment for orders can be made with any credit card accepted in post commissaries and customer information is not archived

by DeCA.

"We're certainly energized by the possibilities offered to our customers through this partnership with industry," Nixon said.

"The future of online commissary shopping is unlimited," he said.

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## Community news briefly

### Story times set for November

November's library story times will be on the wild side, with stories about foxes, wolves and coyotes. All children and their caregivers are invited to hear a story and make a craft every Saturday, with sessions at 1:30 and 4 p.m.

"Coyote" will be read Nov. 5. It is a traditional trickster tale from the American Southwest. Coyote has a nose for trouble wherever he goes. When Coyote decides he wants to sing, dance and fly like the crows, they decide to teach the great trickster a lesson.

Listeners will help make a wall mural for the library based on the story.

On Nov. 12, children will hear about some very unusual barnyard animals in "Wolf" by Becky Bloom. Wolf tries to scare the pig, duck and cow on the farm, but the animals are too busy reading to be scared. Wolf learns that this is a farm for "educated animals" and he starts thinking making a can learn to read, too.

The featured story Nov. 19 will be "No Matter What" by Debi Glori. Small Fox wants to know if Large Fox will always love him no matter what, even when Small Fox is grumpy. This book was provided to the children of the Fort Riley Post Library through the Kansas State Library. The Kansas State Library is sponsoring the "Read To A Tot, No Matter What" program for Children's Book Week. This program encourages adults to read to every child during Children's Book Week, Nov. 14-20.

On Nov. 29, "Big Wolf and Little Wolf" are singing a funny bedtime song when Mama Wolf plays a trick on them.

The library is located in Building 5306, Hood Drive. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The library is closed on Monday.

For more information, call Victoria Martin at 239-5305.

### Parents council to meet Nov. 3

The Parent Advisory Council at Fort Riley meets the first Thursday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. in the training room at Building 6620. The next meeting is Nov. 3.

Meeting agendas include program updates and parent information. For more information about the council, call 239-9850.

### Crafts center activities listed

Oct. 30 - 1 to 2:30 p.m., scrapbooking get-together  
Oct. 31 - 7 p.m., crocheting, knitting and cross stitch class  
Oct. 31 - 6 to 9 p.m., mat-

ting and framing class  
Nov. 1 - Intermediate and advanced stained glass, first of five classes

Nov. 1 - Beginning sewing class, first of four classes

Nov. 1 - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., ceramics mold pouring  
Open hours for using the center's wood shop, ceramics studio, matting and framing studio, computer lab, photography lab and doing stained glass, sewing, quilting, basket weaving and leatherwork are:

Monday and Tuesday from 1 to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Classes are available in the evenings and on weekends in all program areas. A schedule of upcoming classes is available at the center and in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Guide.

For more information, call the Arts and Crafts Center at 239-9205.

### Center offers briefings

The Soldier and Family Support Center on Custer Hill will conduct permanent change of station briefings from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Nov. 2 for Korea assignments, Nov. 9 for Germany assignments, Nov. 16 for other overseas assignments and Nov. 23 for stateside assignments.

For more information, call the center at 239-9435.

### Baby-sitting skills taught

A Red Cross baby-sitting course is scheduled for the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Building 5800. The next class is Nov. 19.

Children must be at least 11 years old to attend. Cost is \$10. For more information, call 239-5077 or 239-4847.

### Car seat safety checks offered

Anyone wanting a child's car seat checked by a safety expert should call 239-2514 to make an appointment. Appointments are available from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at building 407, Pershing Court.

Children younger than 4 are required to sit in car seats. Those 4 and older must wear seat belts. Child safety advocates say children 4 to 7 years old should sit in booster seats that allow seat belts to fit them properly.

### Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

# New book brings readers into wives' hearts, homes during deployments

By Elva Resa

Special to The Post

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A young lieutenant's wife comes dangerously close to alcoholism. Marriages are pushed to the breaking point by the constant strain of 15 months apart. It's the story of the war in Iraq that has only begun to be explored: how modern military families are coping during one of the longest and largest combat deployments since Vietnam.

In "A Year of Absence: Six women's stories of courage, hope, and love," author Jessica Redmond skillfully brings to life the stories of six women who must find a way to guide themselves and their families through a difficult 15 months when their husbands go to war in Iraq as part of the U.S. Army's 1st Armored Division based in Baumholder, Germany.

Each morning, the women anxiously scan the headlines, wondering if they still have a husband,

## Book review

### New book

Title: "A Year of Absence: Six women's stories of courage, hope and love"  
Author: Jessica Redmond  
Publisher: Elva Resa Publishing LLC  
Format: Nonfiction, hardcover, 232 pages  
Retail price: \$24.95  
Publication date: Nov. 1, 2005  
More information: [www.YearOfAbsence.com](http://www.YearOfAbsence.com)



if their children still have a father. Some form friendships that become their lifeline. Others somehow find courage despite their isolation.

Through tearful goodbyes, long-awaited communication from the front and joyful yet troubled reunions, Redmond captures what life is truly like for many families of deployed Soldiers: the ever-present fear of death, the

pressures of single parenthood and the strength and comfort that come with the support of close friends.

Redmond knows firsthand the anxiety and loneliness that can come with a spouse's deployment. In April 2003, during their first year of marriage, her husband was sent to Iraq with the 1st Armored Div.

As the first months of the

deployment dragged on, Redmond set out to discover how other wives were dealing with the separation. "I wanted to learn as much as I could from those around me," she said. "How, so far from home and family and with so many burdens to shoulder, were other Army spouses coping?"

What she discovered was a universal story about women, friendships, marriage and family. "When I began to write 'A Year of Absence,' I thought it was going to be a book about war and its effect on military families. But it became something more along the way, something that surprised me," Redmond said.

"It's certainly a window into the intimate struggles unique to military families. But more than anything, this is a story about six very different women, placed in a difficult situation, struggling to hold their marriages and families together and finding the courage and faith it takes to do so," she said.

## Programs

continued from page 15

reimbursement

Dingle said that as of Sept. 29, about 268,000 Soldiers have used the Rest & Recuperation Leave Program instituted in 2003. About 40,000 Soldiers used the program before DoD started paying for flights from Dallas or Atlanta to the airport closest to their homes, but only about 3,500 have sought reimbursement for air fares they purchased out-of-pocket.

"We want those [other] Soldiers to come in," he said. "We owe them the reimbursement."

### Family readiness groups go online

Brig. Gen. John A. Macdonald, commander of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, outlined how the multi-component family support network and virtual family readiness groups provide support and information to assist Soldiers and families before, during and after deployments.

Macdonald said surveys indicate that 87 percent of enlisted families have a computer in their home and 93 percent of officers' homes are computer-equipped, thus explaining the Army's creation of more and more Web sites to spread the wealth of its programs.

"You can't expect the industrial age of leaving personal lives at the fence," he said.

"We did that for awhile and we had baby carriers on the bleachers during [physical training]. We've gotten smarter than that. You can't hire part of the person. ... And if you don't pay attention to all of that, the Department of Defense says, you don't retain that skilled, motivated, very functionally capable [Soldier]. We have a group of people that we can't afford to let go," he said.

### Next phase: 'Operation Ready'

Macdonald touched on refining Operation Ready, the next phase of Army Family Team Building, Family Readiness Groups, Military One Source and the Web site [www.MyArmyLifeToo.com](http://www.MyArmyLifeToo.com), among other programs provided by CFSC.

Everything discussed in the forum is designed to simplify life for Army families, he said.

"We want to make every Soldier and every family feel that they can do anything that they want to do," said Brig. Gen. Russell L. Frutiger, U.S. Army Europe's deputy assistant chief of staff, G1, adding that the Army views deployment as a family affair.

"It's just a totally new way of doing business."



Photo by Vicki Ohmacht

## Hurricane donations

Kenya Davis (left) of the Child Development Center helps 4-year-old Alyiah Proctor to donate a toy to Capt. Robert Buttrely of The Salvation Army Oct. 14. The caregivers from Module Nine collected more than 50 items from the children's families over a two-week period to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina.

KELLOGG BROWN AND ROOT -APC  
3 x 10.5"  
Black only  
#624528 Out: work your life

4X4 LAND, INC.  
3 x 2"  
Black Only  
3x2 4x4Land 9/30

MANHATTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
3 x 4"  
Black Only  
3x4 Manhattan 24/7





## Community news briefly

### Waiting spouses schedule event

The Waiting Spouses' Group has teamed with the Spouses of Deployed Soldiers Group to provide a spouse activity day every fourth Monday (Nov. 28) of the month. Activities are scheduled from noon to 3 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264.

For more information about joining the group or participating in its activities, call Lisa Mathews at 239-9435 or send her e-mail at [lisa.m.mathews@riley.army.mil](mailto:lisa.m.mathews@riley.army.mil).

### Auto center open five days

The Automotive Skills Center, Building 7753 on Custer Hill, is open 1 to 9 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Basic automotive repair classes are taught from 6 to 7:30 p.m. the first and third Thursday of each month. Advanced automotive repair classes are taught from 6 to 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

The center offers state of the art tools and equipment for patron use, some services performed for a fee, staff assistance in making repairs, 15 vehicle lift bays, an eight-bay car wash, state-of-the-art paint booth and a body shop person for advice and instruction.

For more information, call 239-9764.

### Post Thrift Shop open to all

No military ID is needed to shop at the Post Thrift Shop in Building 267 on Stuart Avenue, next to the stables. Store hours for shopping are 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of each month.

Consignments are accepted 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

For more information, call 784-3874.

STATE FARM INSURANCE  
2 x 1'  
Black Only  
2x1 Ladrone TF

CLAY CENTER FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
2 x 3'  
Black Only  
2X3 CC Fam Phys 10/28 9579 ml

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD-MANHATTA  
2 x 4'  
Black Only  
2x4 1st Assem/God Oct TF

# Army mom graduates from basic



Army News Service/Soule

Pfc. Terrill Stewart, selected as the "Soldier of the Cycle" of her basic training company, leads 600 other troops in the "Soldier's Creed" during her graduation ceremony at Fort Jackson, S.C., Oct. 14. Her son, Spc. Garret Good, was a surprise attendee at her graduation.

By Sheena Williams  
Army News Service

FORT HOOD, Texas — As a mom, a grandmother and an owner of a construction company, Pfc. Terrill Stewart wears many hats. She's added another one — an Army bereit.

Stewart graduated basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., Oct. 14. The 40-year-old woman did more than just complete the training and graduate. Her performance earned her distinction as Soldier of the Cycle for her company.

Her son, Spc. Garret Good — a driver for the command sergeant major of 1st Cavalry Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team at Fort Hood — attended her graduation.

Stewart takes her honor very seriously because joining the Army had always been a personal goal.

"I have always wanted to join the military since I was very young," Stewart said. "But I had small children and was working several jobs to support my family. So by the time I really could join, I was 36 and deemed too old by the Army standards to enlist. When I heard that they had raised the age limit for recruits, I took that as a personal sign that I was supposed to join the Army. This was the time."

With the help of her son, Stewart

came to basic training at Fort Jackson with a good understanding of the expectations. She found herself comfortable with the Army's standards of discipline and familiar with some of the military training exercises.

"My favorite part of basic was the combat live fires, and my least favorite part was when I had to wear a MOPP (mission-oriented protective posture) suit while digging my hasty fighting position. It made me feel a little claustrophobic," Stewart said.

Though the experience was totally new to her, she adapted very quickly to the foreign environment and found herself excelling. She began to understand that the maturity and discipline she already possessed would prove very valuable during her entry level Army training.

"Being an older Soldier made basic training not as difficult as I imagine it was for the younger Soldiers," she said. "Being a mom and an owner of a company teaches you a lot of things about responsibility and accountability, lessons that some of these younger Soldiers hadn't been exposed to. I could see how they had to be broken in by the drill sergeants. It was rewarding to see them grow, though, because it is a life process that doesn't happen overnight."

Stewart also shared how diffi-

cult it was to make the decision to enlist during this time of war.

"I hate to put my family through the emotional stress of not having me there at home with them," Stewart said. "I know that there is a possibility that I might go to Iraq, but my son has already agreed that if I were to be deployed, he would get a transfer to my unit so that we could be together. It sounds strange, but at least we would be able to keep tabs on each other and have a little home away from home."

Stewart had some thoughtful advice for women with goals to succeed.

"Always do what you feel is right in your heart," Stewart advised. "If you dream about being somewhere or doing something, because there's nothing worse than looking back at a life wasted with regret."

Stewart is in advanced individual training at Fort Jackson to become a legal specialist. After her training is complete, she will be assigned to the 405th Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit in Pleasant Grove, Utah.

Editor's note: Pfc. Sheena Williams serves with 1st Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 1st Cavalry Division.

## Toddlers continued from page 15

because child is stressed, child stresses further as he or she realizes the extent of mom's worry.

How do you handle children under such circumstances?

First, it's important that children are prepared for the separation. Many couples find it helpful if the deploying parent spends some quality time with each child in which he or she talks about the upcoming deployment and how they can work as a family in supporting one another. The deploying parent may promise to write and call, and ask in return that the child help around the house with the chores and keep in touch, too.

The deploying parent may also explain why dad or mom has to go away, thus making it easier for the child to accept the loss. Some parents have found that bringing their children to their work spaces or showing them pictures or videos of what their job entails helps children visualize what the parent is doing when he or she is far away for long periods of time.

During the deployment period,

when the remaining parent and the children may be wrestling with stress, loneliness, fear, sadness and anger, it's helpful to get children to share their feelings.

Some counselors recommend affording children the opportunity of discussing their issues with someone outside the family (e.g., chaplain, family support center counselor, child psychologist) who is not experiencing the same stress and who can be more objective in helping the child and parent.

Some families have discovered that communicating through e-mail, letters and videos, as well as exchanging gifts (e.g., souvenirs from abroad, art work from school) can help assuage the loss, make the time pass faster, reduce disciplinary problems and allow all the family members to appreciate each other all the more following the deployment.

Remembering each other on special occasions (e.g., birthdays, anniversaries and special school events) can be facilitated if a calendar is prepared and marked before the deployment. Some families even mark calendars counting down how much time is left before they will all be together again.

Some spouses and children may need professional help in dealing with the challenges associated with deployments.

Resources in this regard include chaplains and the family support agencies of the respective services (e.g., Army Community Services, etc.), military Web sites (e.g., [LIFELines.navy.mil](http://LIFELines.navy.mil), [AFCrossroads.com](http://AFCrossroads.com)), private Web sites ([Military.com](http://Military.com), [ents.com, \[eMilitary.org\]\(http://eMilitary.org\), \[MilitaryWivesandMoms.org\]\(http://MilitaryWivesandMoms.org\)\) and programs such as Operation: Military Kids.](http://Marinepar-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

Finally, spouses and children of active duty and reserve Army, Navy and Marine Corps personnel can receive up to six free counseling sessions offered by civilian professionals under a contract with Military OneSource by calling (800) 342-9647.

BANNER BETTY  
2 x 2'  
Black Only  
2X2 Betty Banner 9527 ml

WILLIE'S BNR & GRILL  
2 x 3'  
Black Only  
2X3 Willie's 10/14 03592226

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION  
2 x 4'  
Black Only  
pawnee

MANHATTAN SHOE REPAIR  
2 x 2'  
Black Only  
2x2 ManShoe TF Oct.

MILITARY OUTLET  
2 x 3.5'  
Black Only  
2X3.5 Mil Outlet Oct TF

DESIGNING WOMEN'S WEIGHT LOSS  
2 x 4'  
Black Only  
2X4 DWWL 10/23 9576 ml







MURDOCK MOTORS  
6 x 21.25"  
Black Only  
6x21.5 Ad Mania







# Honor Roll recipients named

Officials at Fort Riley Middle School have announced the following students made the Principal's Honor Roll and Troopers Honor Roll for the first six weeks of school ending Sept. 20.

Students on the Principal's Honor Roll must have attained a 3.5 grade point average or higher and have no C's on the report card.

Students on the Troopers Honor Roll must have attained a 3.0 to 3.49 grade point average and may have one C on their report card.

## Principal's Honor Roll

### Sixth grade

Troy Adams  
Jocelyn Aguilar  
Zachary Auman  
Shamiece Banks  
Kendra Baskin  
Clarissa Boberg  
Brittany Borders  
Davis Broadwater  
Hannah Billard  
Angel Burnside  
Brandika Cadehead  
Courtney Clyde  
Brittany Cook  
Devin Davis  
Ashley Delio  
Eric Dixon  
Kyle Dyson  
Abigail Ebersole  
Jacob Elliott  
Nicole Farver  
Johnathan Filiautault  
Christian Forbes  
Celine Fowler  
Lucas Freeman  
Medina Gregory  
Alyssa Grover  
Kayla Haack  
Aika Habersham  
Austin Hansen  
Rowan Harris  
Weslie Hatfield  
Gregory Haug  
Donald Hester  
Antonio Hill  
Mason Holbert  
Damaris Jimenez  
Kadesia Johnson  
Marisa Jones  
Matthew Lee  
Aisha-Shamika Lockhart  
Rose Lucero  
Stephanie Malone  
Caroline Michael  
Terrance Miller  
Alyssa Moenning  
Derrick Montgomery  
Lauren Moss  
Taylor Nagle  
Christian Nott  
Kretchen Olmeda  
Evergreen Osa  
Michael Pappal  
Alejandra Parham  
Blake Parker  
Taylor Pittard  
Hunter Postier  
Dylen Raastad  
Tevin Raines  
Josiah Robinson  
Rafael Rodriguez  
Mootafao Salu  
Nathaniel Sankey  
Nicolle Santiago  
Katherine Seigel  
Matthew Solis  
Paul Therault  
Dawnia Tinsman  
Christopher Valladolid  
Coltyn Vazquez  
Clayton Vermeesch  
Carina Waite  
Sara Walantus  
Zachary Wallborn  
Alexander Weaver  
Michelle Westerman  
Elizabeth Yoast  
Nicholas Young

### Seventh grade

Annelise Apodaca  
Maya Arredondo  
Shabazz Brumfield  
Felica Cates  
Justine Cerna  
Erica Davis  
Rebecca Dirks  
Elizabeth Grammel  
McKenzie Hardy  
Amanda Hernandez  
Brenden Higginbottom

Wesley Hill  
Staci Holubek  
Connor Howard  
McKenna Kelly  
Hillary Konken  
Leah Kundel  
Alexis Lallement  
Melissa Leturgez  
Cindy Malone  
Luis Mareno  
Amanda McElroy  
Tonya Mills  
Alexis Miskevish  
Orel Moran  
Kiara Ocasio  
Courtney Paige  
Ian Palmer  
Shawn Persaud  
Brooke Powers  
Dominika Pullmann  
Ashley Rogers-Floro  
Samantha Satterlee  
Laura Seigel  
Valerie Serna  
Kimberly Slaght  
Dylan Soper  
Hanna Sul  
Samantha Van Riper  
Samantha Veasy  
Kenaura Warren  
Michela Wedel

### Eighth grade

Miguel Adame  
Danielle Adams  
Jacobly Adams  
Lauren Apodaca  
Meshawn Armstrong  
Tyler Barnes  
Antonio Baskin  
Justin Baublitz  
Daris Benton  
Taylor Berry  
Alexander Bertucci  
Zachary Birchmeier  
Jasan Bronson-Elzinga  
Samantha Courts  
Bria Dansby  
Jacklyne Dirks  
Jade Dwellley  
Michaela Dycus  
Joshua Eckel  
Casey Elliott  
Alyssa Floro  
Charles Foote  
Gabriella Gadsdon  
Malik Giles  
Jeffrey Graham  
Shannon Grammel  
Kylee Gray  
Tara Haag  
Robyn Harmon  
Jazmene Hartage  
Megan Hertel  
Brittany Hitchcock  
Jerrad Hoferman  
Amanda Hollis  
Morgan Holmes  
Taylor Johnson  
Paige Jones  
Sydney Krueger  
Christian Kubik  
Madeline Kundel  
Leanna Ludington  
Natalya McCarroll  
Matthew Miller  
Thomas Miskevish  
Alicia Moneith  
Rachel Nelson  
Karla Pagan  
Alexa Pappal  
Esteban Perez Jr.  
Angelita Perez  
Kimberlyn Phelps  
Falestu Pohahau  
Samuel Quintas  
Shaniece Ruiz  
Michelle Savitski  
Jasmine Smiley  
Johnisha Smith  
Janice Soledispa  
Kayla Soper  
Jonathan Spurlock  
Brent Stroh  
Cassandra Townsend  
Christina Valentin  
Kyle Wagner  
Victoria Walder  
Michael Wilkerson  
Allyson Woolard

### Ninth grade

Maggi Birchmeier  
Tanasha Bunch

Austin Cargill  
Tara Chapman  
Darius Dawsey  
Demarcus Dickerson  
Alicia Doll  
Mark Emmer  
Jensine Ernacio  
Michelle Freeman  
Iesha Fujiwara  
Jaelen Gadsdon  
Daniel German  
Jaelyn Hall  
Oscar Hall  
Ruthann Harmon  
Akejah Lettsome  
Laticia Lytch  
Zachary Marris  
Ryan McClosky  
John McCord Jr.  
Domineeq Monroe  
MacKenzie Moser  
Tamika Nelson  
Brittney Newlin  
Brandon Nylen  
Johnny Oh  
Brigham Parker  
Jermaine Phillips  
Courtney Robinson  
Dewayne Sanford  
Alexandria Shafer  
Devanion Sieg  
Elijah Skinner  
Jayna Smith  
Marshall Smith  
Derrick Swanson  
Michael Sweeny

## Troopers Honor Roll

### Seventh grade

Jamison Carmichael  
Emmanuel Cockrell  
Frank Davis  
Mary Dearing  
Mitchell Emerson  
Leah Griggs  
Errin Gyuran  
Jawan Herron  
Zachary Hopkins  
Zachary Jones  
Joseph Lannon  
Brittany Lavallee  
Torrenyqua McDonald  
Ariel McQueen  
Haven Munson  
Micah Newhart  
Monica Nielsen  
Zachary Nienkey  
Bettina Smith  
Marisa Susce  
Ashley Thomas  
Mikala Walter

### Eighth grade

Katherine Balsamo  
Rowell Boyce  
Mikela Brown  
Andrew Coleman  
Andrew Darland  
Steven Delio  
Jordan Fuller  
Cassandra Glenn  
Trevor Hardy  
Jeremy Herman  
Darius Herron  
Darren Hobson  
Brittini Knapp  
Anthony Kozieski  
Victor Link  
Eric McDowell  
Brody Meech  
Shannon Michaud  
Kendal Moore  
Sarah Newcomer  
Keyanna Rawls  
Jatarius Ray  
Matthew Righter  
Stephanie Rivera  
Carlos Santiago Jr.  
Gunner Schritenthal  
Erika Scott  
Shymeshea Stubbs  
Brandi Washington  
Brittany Watson  
Christina Westerman  
Andrew Winger  
Jacob Wright

## Churches host Halloween alternatives

### Morris Hill Chapel hosts Hallelujah Night Oct. 31

The Morris Hill Chapel congregation will offer a fun, safe environment for families and children of all ages on Halloween.

Bible-based games will be the highlight of the evening, accompanied by food, dramatic play and a presentation by the drill team ministry for the Family Fall Festival also known as Hallelujah Night.

The festival takes place from 5 to 8 p.m. and everything is free.

For more information, call Althea Brown at 717-3032.

### Congregation plans event

The Junction City Church of the Nazarene will host a Fall Festival 2005, "Trunk or Treat at the Naz." It will be a family celebration, an alternative to Halloween, which allows the entire family to participate. The event will from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 31 at 1315 W. Ash St.

Activities include inflatable games outside, numerous inside games, food, fun and fellowship for the entire family. Children will be able to fill their bags with treats from the trunks of cars parked on the lot. Suggested donation is a can of food that will be given to the local food pantry.

For more information, call (785) 762-4402.

Do you have a community story idea to share? Call the editor at 239-8854.

CHANGING TIMES BOUTIQUE

2 x 2"

Black Only

2x2 CTB Oct TF

PATRICIA'S UNDERCOVER

1 x 5.5"

Black Only

1x5.Sherricia's running bras

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

2 x 2"

Black Only

holiday magic

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

2 x 2"

Black Only

schneider

USA DISCOUNTERS

3 x 10.5"

Black Only

BLUE/PU 10/14

SCREEN MACHINE

2 x 2"

Black Only

2x2 Screen Mach Oct TF

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

2 x 2"

Black Only

Vicor



# Travel & Fun in Kansas

Page 24

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, October 28, 2005

## Leisuretime ideas

### At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

**Oct. 28** – Cry Wolf (PG-13)

**Oct. 29, Nov. 3** – Just Like Heaven (PG-13)

**Oct. 30** – Roll Bounce (PG-13)

**Nov. 4** – Exorcism of Emily Rose (PG-13)

**Nov. 5** – Flight Plan (PG-13)

**Nov. 6** – Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG)

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

### Manhattan:

**What:** Manhattan Jaycees Haunted House. Note: Some content may not be suitable for children under the age of 7.

**When:** Doors open at 7 p.m., Oct. 27-31

**Where:** 8845 Quail Lane, behind Dara's Fast Lane on Highway 24

**Web site:** www.haunted-manhattan.com

**Admission:** Adults \$5, Children 12 and under \$3

### Abilene:

**What:** Haunted Halloween at the Lebold Mansion. Experience a fun old-fashioned Halloween in the old haunted mansion.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., Friday-Monday only, through Oct. 31.

**Where:** 106 N. Vine, Lebold Mansion

**Phone:** (785) 263-4356

**Web site:** www.lebold-mansion.com

**Admission:** \$10

### Burns:

**What:** Fall Festival of Pumpkins. Great activities and entertainment every weekend. Flashlight maze Friday through Saturday only.

**When:** Daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m., flashlight maze from 7 to 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, through Oct. 31.

**Where:** 10001 NW U.S. Highway 77

**Phone:** (316) 320-4150

**Web site:** www.walter-spumpkinpatch.com

**Admission:** \$4 per person for all day. (Some activities are additional charges)

### Eureka:

**What:** Hawthorne Ranch Trail Rides. Horse, tack, and guide provided for trail rides through the hills along wooded areas and streams.

**When:** 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. through Nov. 1

**Where:** 2116 M Road

**Phone:** (620) 583-5887

**Admission:** \$20

### Hamilton:

**What:** 5 R Ranch Wagon/Trail Rides. Horse-drawn wagon rides and horseback rides that take you through the rolling Flint Hills of Greenwood County. Campfire lunch included.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by reservation, through Dec. 1.

**Where:** 2546 W. Road S

**Phone:** (620) 678-3829

**Admission:** \$25

## BOSS creates haunted house

By Mary Ann Mott  
363rd MPAD

Spooky thrills, cold chills and the unexpected await visitors to this year's haunted house created by members of Fort Riley's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers. The doors creak open from 7 to 10 p.m. Oct. 28-31 at Building 725 on Marshall Army Air Field.

The haunted house contains eight separate rooms featuring eight different Halloween themes. Cost again this year is \$3 per person, with children 5 and younger admitted free.

However, BOSS President Spec. Dwayne Allen cautioned that parents should be aware that young children might find the scary

experience a negative one and plan accordingly.

Teams of BOSS volunteers designed each of the rooms independently, Allen said. The BOSS Soldiers got together to brainstorm ideas for their particular room. They assumed responsibility transforming their concept of a horror experience, building the decor from scratch.

The only limit a team faced was what ideas their creative minds could devise and how the team could bring those ideas to reality within their room. Each team provided construction materials and set up the necessary effects to make its particular theme come alive.

Last year's haunted house

included the three witches from Shakespeare's play, "Macbeth," complete with fog, strobe lights and simmering cauldron, Allen recalled.

That happened to be the first room that people entered, he said, and it kind of "set the overall theme for the house."

"We give (the volunteers) a chance to input their ideas, so it's different every year," Allen said. "Every room is a surprise."

About 20 BOSS volunteers will be responsible for this year's effort. It takes about a month to set everything up, Allen estimated.

BOSS volunteers guide guests through the house. The tour takes 15 to 20 minutes.

BOSS decided to move the haunted house to the airfield this year because of all the construction taking place on Main Post. He said he hopes that the new location will not keep people from venturing out to enjoy the event.

BOSS's haunted house boasts the reputation of being the largest such attraction in the area and is well attended by residents of nearby towns. BOSS has sponsored a haunted house for at least the past four years, to the best of Allen's recollection.

Area residents who want to visit the haunted house but do not have a Department of Defense vehicle registration sticker on their vehicle can enter post by producing a valid vehicle registration, valid insurance card and photo IDs of each adult in the vehicle. The airfield can be reached off Exit 300 on Interstate 70 from Ogden or Junction City.

"This (haunted house) is something the adults can have fun at as well," Allen said.

Last year's haunted house drew more than 600 visitors and raised about \$1,800, Allen said. After expenses, BOSS banked about \$1,300 in profit. BOSS uses such profits to support its three tenants for programs: morale and recreation, welfare and well-being, and community service.

For more information about the haunted house or about BOSS, call (314) 239-8147 or visit Allen Building 253 on Main Post.

## Timely fashions

## Textiles museum showcases clothing

By Lisa Sisley and Laura Propp  
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN – The Kansas State University Costume and Textiles Museum will open a new exhibit with a reception at 6 p.m. Oct. 30, in Justin Hall's Hoffman Lounge. The exhibit, "Ration to Fashion," will feature fashions and military uniforms men and women wore during World War II and the postwar era.

The exhibit will be open from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and by appointment through Jan. 11. Displays will be throughout the building and in the Apparel, Textiles and Interior Design gallery in Room 328 of Justin Hall.

"We are very excited to open this exhibit to the public," said Marla Day, curator of the museum. "Our collection will feature around 120 to 150 different ensembles."

Friends of the Costume and Textiles Museum have supported the research, collection and display of the items. Their efforts will be evident in the vast array of apparel, according to organizers.

"Ration to Fashion" is an appropriate title for this exhibit because people during World War II and the postwar period wore fashions that were directly influenced by the rationing of certain fabrics, materials and accessories," said Barbara Gatewood, professor emerita of apparel, textiles and interior design.

### For more info

For more information or to make reservations for the opening reception, contact Marla Day at mday@k-state.edu or at (785) 532-6993. The cost per person is \$25.

Clothing styles of the time were drastically affected by factors such as the rationing of wool and metal, according to Day. Wool, used during wartime in the making of military uniforms, was not readily available for civilian clothing production, so formerly full dresses evolved into simple A-line sheaths. Many different materials were substituted for wool.

Metal, used in zippers, was rationed to make guns and bullets. Small snaps, buttons or ties replaced the zippers.

"Our collection will demonstrate how simple clothing became during wartime, and this includes wedding and evening gowns," Day said. "However, we will have on display a red silk chignon gown made by one of the only couture dress houses left open in Paris during the war, which was Lucien LeLong."

Many of the exhibits will feature the stories that go with each fashion of the era.

"We have numerous gowns from war brides," Day said. "Some of them are very simple. One was made by Martha Streeter,

married in 1941, and was made of wool crepe so that it could be worn again. This thinking was very typical for the time period. We will also exhibit uniforms from different military branches of the service, such as the Women's Army Corps, along with those of U.S. military veterans."

Donors from all over the nation have contributed to the exhibit. The K-State Historic Costume and Textiles Museum provides a safe and controlled atmosphere for some of these donors' most prized family heirlooms, Day said.

"One of our most interesting displays is that of our fallen heroes," Gatewood said.

"One of our items will be an American flag placed over the coffin of Paul L. Sisson, a K-State graduate in mechanical engineering in 1938. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his acts of heroism in flying bombing raids over Osaka, Japan."

Postwar fashion also will be highlighted in the exhibit, which will demonstrate the extreme shift from wartime styles.

"1947 brought a bold new look to fashion in America," Day said. "Full Dior-inspired dresses were seen for women and tailored sportswear was being worn by men. Hawaiian shirts in bold colors also appeared during this postwar era."

Guests at the catered opening reception will be served elegant interpretations of foods based on items available during this period of resource rationing.

## K-State offers cultural activities

By Jennifer Newberry  
Kansas State University

### Munich Orchestra plays Nov. 3

MANHATTAN – The Munich Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 3 in McCain Auditorium. The performance is part of the McCain Performance Series at Kansas State University.

Conductor Philippe Entremont is known worldwide for his playing abilities and conducting skills. Orchestra selections will include works by Weber, Mozart and Brahms.

A reception will be held before the performance and is open to the public. The cost is \$10 per person.

For more information, call the McCain box office at (785) 532-6428.

Tickets can be purchased at www.k-state.edu/mccain or by calling the McCain box office between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays.

### K-State Glee Club to perform Nov. 4

MANHATTAN – The Men's Glee Club of Kansas State University will begin its concert season with a fall performance at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 4, in McCain Auditorium.

Other concerts during the school year will include "The Big Sing" annual concert at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 11 in Lincoln, Neb.; the holiday concert at 2 p.m. Dec. 4 in All Faith's Chapel at KSU; the Cadence annual concert, the glee club's a cappella group, at 7:30 p.m. April 13 in Forum Hall at the K-State Student Union; and a spring concert at 7:30 p.m. April 21 in McCain Auditorium.

Admission will be charged at each concert, with student rates available.

The K-State Men's Glee Club was established in 1888. Every year the club performs around the state of Kansas and the nation. The group is directed by Gerald Polich, associate professor of music. Men's Glee Club has 45 male singers and two female accompanists.

## 'Diary of Anne Frank' on stage in Abilene

### Staff report

"Diary of Anne Frank" continues on the Great Plains Theatre Festival stage in Abilene through Nov. 13.

The Wendy Kessleman version

of the popular play is the newest adaptation using newly discovered journal entries.

Matt Lagan is GPTF's first international actor, coming all the way from Tokyo, Japan. He plays Otto Frank.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 2 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday, and 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Ticket prices are \$16 for adults and \$11 for students 21 and younger.

GPTF will be having its first "Fall Classic Series" during the run of Anne Frank. This is a program geared for middle and high school students. Four special matinees will be performed Nov. 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 10:30 a.m.

Prices for are half off — \$8 per student — for school classes for these matinees and corporate sponsorship is available for schools in need.

For reservations or more information, call (888) 222-4574.

